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Phalguna 27, 1885 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Seventh Session
(Third Lok Sabha)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

New Delhi

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March 17, 1964/Phalguna 27, 1885 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Floating Dock at Visakhapatnam

*608. **Shri Yashpal Singh:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Project to provide a floating dock at Visakhapatnam has been dropped;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether some other venue has been selected for this purpose?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Among several reasons the more important were:—

First.—its location would hamper the efficient working of the Port in the limited Water space available,

Second.—heavy cost of maintenance,

Third.—its limited use for repair works.

(c) In lieu of a floating dock, a graving dock is now proposed to be constructed.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या हम उम्मीद करें कि फ़ोर्थ फ़ाइव-ईयर प्लान में यह काम पूरा हो जायेगा ?

श्री राज बहादुर : उम्मीद की जा सकती है कि जब यह काम शुरू होगा, तो उस के अठारह महीने या चौबीस महीने के अन्दर पूरा हो जायेगा ।

श्री यशपाल सिंह : इसमें कुल कितना खर्चा होगा ?

श्री राज बहादुर : अभी अनुमान लगाया गया है कि इस प्रकार के डाइमेंशन पर २६६ लाख खर्चा होगा ।

I would like to speak in English. The dimensions will be 600 ft. x 90 ft. x 26 ft.

Now it is proposed to have a bigger one to accommodate bigger vessels or bulk carriers right there.

Shri Ranga: Are we to understand that in the Fourth Plan period they want to have it at Visakhapatnam itself or develop some other port on the east coast and have it there?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No. It is a dry dock for the shipyard and it will have to be in Visakhapatnam right near the shipyard, and we propose to have it as quickly as possible.

Shri Kapur Singh: Was this proposed dock to be of open sea haulage capacity or merely a local dock with local dockage capacity?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It will essentially be used for the ships that are constructed at the port.

Shri Kapur Singh: My question was not understood. Was the proposal for an open sea haulage dock or for one with local dockage capacity, that is to say, could it be removed from one port to another or it would stay there?

Shri Raj Bahadur: What the hon. Member means to ask perhaps is whether it would be a floating dock removable or portable from place to place or whether it would be a stationary dock. Since it has been decided not to have a floating dock but a graving dock, it will be a stationary thing.

Shri Sheo Narain: What will be the total estimate of it?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have already answered that.

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : इस में पंजाब सरकार कितना रुपया लगायेगी ?

श्री राज बहादुर : पंजाब सरकार से कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है ।

Duty-Free Shop at Santa Cruz

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*660. { **Shri Vishram Prasad:** / **Shri R. G. Dubey:** / **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to have a duty-free shop at Santa Cruz airport for foreign tourists; and

(b) whether there is also a proposal to renovate the existing building meant for international traffic and provide additional amenities and facilities at Santa Cruz?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) There is a proposal for certain extensions and modifications to the existing building.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद: अभी पिछले दिनों अखबारों में सान्टा-क्रूज एयरपोर्ट की बिल्डिंग के बारे में बहुत क्रिटिसिज्म की गई थी । क्या सरकार का ध्यान उस तरफ़ गया है और उस में कहां तक सत्यता पाई गई है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जिस बिल्डिंग तैयार की गई थी, उस समय जेट हवाई जहाज नहीं आते थे । इसलिए आज से लगभग चौदह पंद्रह बरस पहले इस बिल्डिंग को उसी के मुताबिक डिजाइन किया गया था । उस के बाद जब यह बिल्डिंग बन कर तैयार हुई, तो जेट हवाई-जहाज आने लगे और यह बिल्डिंग कम पाई गई । अब उस की एक्सटेंशन और एक्सपेंशन की जा रही है ।

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : इस ड्यूटी-फ्री शाप में यात्री कौन कौन सी चीजें खरीद सकेंगे ?

श्री राज बहादुर : इस में बहुत सी चीजें हैं । एक लम्बी लिस्ट है, जिस को मैं पढ़ कर सुना सकता हूं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर लम्बी लिस्ट है, तो मिनिस्टर साहब टेबल पर रख दें ।

Shri Ravindra Varma: Is it a fact that the Indian Coffee Board and Tea Board have asked for permission to open counters for popularising Indian coffee and tea in the transit lounges? If so, what action has been taken on the request?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am not exactly aware of a request having been made. But if we have got accommodation, we will certainly try to entertain the request. We do that whenever we can.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will such shops be opened at other airports also, and will these shops be run in the private sector or in the public sector?

Shri Raj Bahadur: At present, we propose to have it only at Santa Cruz. If it succeeds, we shall try to have it at other airport terminals also.

Estimate of Winter Crops

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*610. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Shri Yashpal Singh:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Inder J. Malhotra:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the overall estimate of winter crops in the country;

(b) the areas where these crops have completely or partially failed, State-wise; and

(c) the areas where scarcity conditions are already prevailing?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Estimates of winter crops or rabi crops for 1963-64 will become available sometime in June-July, 1964 when the all-India Final Estimates, 1963-64 are expected to be ready.

(b) Rabi sowings had been fairly good but the standing crops are reported to have sufferred considerable damage as a result of the cold wave in the later half of January, 1964 in several districts of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. It is not possible to give any quantitative estimate of the extent of damage in the various areas. Some idea about the actual loss in production could be formed after the final estimates of the harvested produce become available.

(c) Scarcity conditions were reported to be prevailing in parts of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Punjab.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Arising out of the reply to part (c) of the question, I would like to know the help that has been given by the Centre to these scarcity areas.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: We are helping the States of Rajasthan and Punjab in regard to supplying cattle feed and fodder, and rations also if required.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether any rough estimate of the winter crop is available with the Government?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: No, Sir. As I said, the rabi sowing was very good, and the over-all prospects of foodgrains production in 1963-64 appear to be satisfactory, but the estimates, even rough estimates, we can give only when the crops are harvested.

श्री यशपाल सिंह : क्या सरकार के ध्यान में यह बात है कि पश्चिमी यू० पी० में, खास तौर से मेरठ डिवीजन में, इतनी बर्फ पड़ी है कि दस फ़ीसदी फ़सलें भी बाकी नहीं रही हैं ; यदि हां, तो सरकार वहां के किसानों को इमदाद देने के लिए क्या कर रही है ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : उन को इमदाद देने के बारे में राज्य सरकार से परामर्श किया जा सकता है । अगर वे लोग कुछ सुझाव देंगे, तो उस पर विचार होगा ।

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: May I know what agency prepares these estimates, the Central Ministry or the State Government?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Regarding the cold wave damage, the estimates have been prepared by the State Governments, but we also come into the picture when they approach us.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: What about the over-all estimate?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Both Centre and States.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The import of wheat from U.S.A. is rising very fast. From 4 million, it is going to be about 6 million. Does that indicate any very drastic reduction in wheat production for the current year?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: No, Sir, it does not indicate that. It might indicate our over-all requirements.

Shri Tyagi: In view of the very serious damage caused by frost in some parts of my constituency, for instance, in U.P., may I know if the Central Government have tendered any advice to the State Governments that wherever there are such severe damages, they should give some relief to the cultivators?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: We had contacted the State Governments in regard to obtaining the figures, and the information that we got at that time was that there had been much damage, but later on reports came in that the damage was to the tune of 20 to 25 per cent—and n some places 50 per cent also—but they have not yet sought any assistance from us.

श्री रामसेवक यादव : मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या पाले और शीत-लहरी से सब से ज्यादा नुक्सान उत्तर प्रदेश को पहुंचा है ; यदि हां, तो क्या वहां की सरकार ने केन्द्र की सहायता के लिए लिखा है, उस ने किस प्रकार की सहायता मांगी है और केन्द्र की ओर से क्या सहायता दी गई है ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : शीत-लहरी से केवल उत्तर प्रदेश को नहीं, बल्कि राजस्थान, पंजाब और उत्तर प्रदेश, इन तमाम इलाकों को नुक्सान पहुंचा है ।

श्री रामसेवक यादव : क्या उत्तर प्रदेश को सब से ज्यादा नुक्सान पहुंचा है ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : कुछ इलाके हो सकते हैं, जहां सब से ज्यादा नुक्सान पहुंचा हो ।

डा० गोविन्द दास: जहां तक मध्य प्रदेश का सम्बन्ध है, क्या सरकार के पास राज्य सरकार ने यह लिखा है कि वहां से अब वे चावल की निकासी बन्द करना चाहते हैं ? यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने उनको क्या सलाह दी है और उस प्रदेश को केन्द्रीय सरकार और क्या सहायतायें दे रही है ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : इसके बारे में बाद में सूचना दूंगा ।

Shri Kapur Singh: Could the Government tell us the approximate extent of the area in which the winter crops could not be sown because of the failure of the authorities to build drainage channels such as in my village at Jurgaon?

Mr. Speaker: How can it be expected . . . .

Shri Kapur Singh: I merely wanted to illustrate the point to make it understandable.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: This question relates to cold wave and scarcity.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member carries it further and says that it is due to the failure of the authorities in not supplying timely facilities such as drainage.

श्री बड़े : जिस प्रकार से पंजाब ने क्राप इन्श्योरेंस की व्यवस्था की है, उसी प्रकार से दूसरी स्टेट्स में भी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये, इस प्रकार का डायरेक्शन केन्द्रीय सरकार राज्य सरकारों को क्यों नहीं देती है और क्या वह इसके लिए पैसे देने के लिए तैयार है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अब आप बीमे पर चले गये ।

श्री बड़े : पंजाब ने ऐसा किया है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: किया तो है, लेकिन वह दूसरे सवाल में चीज आ सकती है, इस में नहीं ।

Shri Jaswant Mehta: There is already shortage of food in the country and due to this damage and scarcity conditions there is a further shortage. Have the Government thought over how to get over the food problem?

Mr. Speaker: It is a wider question.

Shri Dinen Bhattacharya: May I know whether the damage to crops has not affected the existing price levels of cheap grains in these localities?

Mr. Speaker: That would be seen: that in a matter of opinion.

श्री कछवाय : इस प्रकार की हानि फसलों को प्रतिवर्ष होती है । क्या सरकार कोई ऐसी नीति बनाने वाली है कि हानि के बाद भी काश्तकारों को कुछ सहायता मिल सके ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : नीति का यह सवाल नहीं ।

Shri A. P. Jain: My question is confined to the kharif crops already harvested. The estimates are normally with the Government by this time. What are the provisional estimates of the production of Kharif crops in 1963-64?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: For kharif crop, especially paddy, it is about 32 million tons. For the others I will give later on.

Shri D. J. Naik: In some parts of Saurashtra, particularly in Kutch, there have been scarcity conditions. What aid have the Centre given to the Gujarat Government for relieving the scarcity conditions?

Mr. Speaker: We cannot discuss particular regions.

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : क्या यह सही है कि शीत लहरी का असर रबी के उस एरिया पर नहीं पड़ा है जहां पटवन का इंतजाम है ? अगर सही है तो आगे के लिए उन जगहों के पटवन का क्या इंतजाम सरकार कर रही है ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : पटवन के लिए जो पंचवर्षीय योजना के अनुसार सिंचाई की व्यवस्था करने की बात है, उसको आगे बढ़ाया जा रहा है ।

श्री क० ना० तिवारी : जहां इंतजाम था पटवन का, वहां शीत लहरी का असर गेहूं या जौ या और किसी क्राप पर नहीं पड़ा है, क्या यह सही है ?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : सही है ।

श्री बागड़ी : हम अकाल पीड़ित हैं और हम रह गए हैं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : बहुत रह जाते हैं, एक आध तो नहीं रह जाता है ।

लखनऊ-कानपुर-सागर-राष्ट्रीय राजपथ रप पुल

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*६१२. **श्रीमती सावित्री निगम :**
श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :

क्या **परिवहन** मंत्री १७ दिसम्बर, १९६३ के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १७६४ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या लखनऊ–कानपुर–सागर राष्ट्रीय राजपथ पर यमुना नदी पर पुल बनाने के सम्बन्ध में निर्णय कर लिया गया था तथा बाद में उस निर्णय को रद्द कर दिया गया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो निर्णय बदलने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में नवीनतम स्थिति क्या है ?

परिवहन मंत्रालय में नौवहन मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) से (ग). एक विवरण सभा पटल पर प्रस्तुत है ।

विवरण

(क) और (ख). कालपी के पास यमुना पर एक स्वतंत्र सड़क-पुल के निर्माण की व्यवस्था दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में की गई थी । इस सम्बन्ध में, जबकि जांच कार्य किये जा रहे थे, रेलवे मंत्रालय ने यह सूचित किया कि उन्होंने इस स्थान पर विद्यमान रेलवे पुल पर नये गर्डर लगाने का कार्यक्रम बनाया है और नये गर्डर लगाने के बाद रेलवे पुल पर सड़क यातायात के लिए एक अलग डेक लगाया जा सकेगा । जांच करने पर, एक मिला-जुला रेल सड़क के पुल का प्रस्ताव, एक अलग सड़क पुल के मुकाबले अधिक मितव्यय लगा । इसलिए, नये गर्डर लगाते समय विद्यमान रेलवे पुल पर सड़क यातायात के लिए एक अलग डेक की व्यवस्था करने का निश्चय किया गया है ।

(ग) ऐसा अनुमान है कि रेलवे पुल पर नये गर्डर लगाने का कार्य १९६५ के अन्त तक शुरू किया जायेगा और लगभग १८ मास की अवधि में समाप्त हो जायेगा ।

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know how long Government will take to complete the work of re-girdering and remodelling these roads?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is expected that the Railways will undertake re-girdering of this bridge towards the middle or the end of next year and it will take about 18 months time after that.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Is the hon. Minister aware that because of the delay in re-gridering the railway bridge, exports from U.P. to other States as well as traffic are suffering?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That is in the rainy season.

Undelivered Mail in Nullah

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*613. **Shri R. Barua:**
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 300 postal letters were dumped into a nullah near Patel Nagar, New Delhi by a postman of New Delhi;

(b) whether similar cases were also detected in the past in other parts of the country;

(c) if so, the action taken in those cases; and

(d) the preventive measures being taken against recurrence of such incidents?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A few cases of the nature came to notice.

(c) Besides taking appropriate disciplinary action against delinquent officials, the cases were also reported to the Police.

(d) Supervision has been tightened up.

Shri R. Barua: May I know whether any assessment has been made regarding the non-delivery and wrong delivery of such letters in the rural areas? Particularly by the extra-departmental post offices?

Shri Bhagavati: The postal officials—the town Inspectors and overseer Postmen in the cities and twons and Inspectors of Post offices and overseers in the rural areas—inspect the deliveries made by the postmen, and then again, we also post letters for finding

out whether letters have been regularly and properly delivered to the persons concerned.

Shri R. Barua: May I know whether proper statistics are maintained in order to make an assessment as to whether such practices are on the decrease or are on the increase?

Shri Bhagavati: No statistics as such are maintained but from the complaints received we find that it has come down. As regards cases relating to the illegal disposal of letters, we find that in 1961 there were seven such cases; in 1962 there were 17 cases and in 1963, the number of cases has come down to nine all over India.

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : जिस डाकिये ने इन चिट्ठियों को फेंका था, क्या सरकार ने उससे यह जानना चाहा था कि किस आपत्ति-वश उसने ये चिट्ठियां फेंकीं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपत्ति तो बोझ उठाने की होगी ।

Shri Bhagavati: If he has not discharged his duties properly, there can be no reason. That is an illegal act.

Shri Kapur Singh: These occurrences take place because it is presumed that the postmen usually belong to a temporary cadre of service, and therefore, may I know whether the provision of an incentrirised permanent cadre of postmen to safeguard against these occurrences is under the examination of the Government?

Shri Bhagavati: Within a certain period, the postmen are confirmed and they are permanent people.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: The hon. Minister has stated that the cases have been referred to the police also. May I know the result of the investigations made by the police?

Shri Bhagavati: So far, 33 cases have been detected and the services of 12 officials who had committed such offences have been terminated. Some cases are *sub judice* and some cases are under police investigation.

Dr. M. S. Aney: May I know whether any attempts were made by the postal department to re-address to the proper addressees those letters which were found very late and which were defective?

Shri Bhagavati: They were shown to the addresses and they could read as far as was practicable; something was spoiled but they could roughly read the contents.

Shri Heda: Though such cases may be on the decrease now, may I know whether any punitive action is contemplated to stop the negligence of duty in this regard?

Shri Bhagavati: As far as punitive action is concerned, we report the cases to the police. In the court, of course, these cases take more time. So, sometimes, it is difficult.

Shri Tyagi: And the employee is not suspended.

Shri Bhagavati: The employees concerned are suspended and departmental action is taken.

श्री शिव नारायण : क्या कोई ऐसे भी आदमी इनवाल्ड हैं जिन का तीन तीन बरस से सस्पेंशन चल रहा है, यदि हां, तो उनके बारे में सरकार ने क्या किया है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह दूसरा सवाल है । इनका चल रहा है ?

श्री शिव नारायण : तीन तीन बरस से चल रहा है ।

श्री कछवाय: पिछली बार समाचारपत्रों में छपा था कि मध्य प्रदेश में डाकखाने में से रुपये चोरी चले गये । क्या इस तरह की शिकायतें सरकार को मिली हैं, यदि हां, तो इन पर क्या कार्रवाई हुई है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय: वह दूसरा सवाल है। आप मध्य प्रदेश में चले गये।

श्री बड़े : अदर केसिस से यह सवाल कवर हो जाता है।

Mr. Speaker: Other cases of this nature of throwing away of letters, not of money orders.

जलपान गृह

*६१४. **श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :** क्या **रेलवे** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार रेलवे स्टेशनों पर जलपान गृहों तथा चाय की दुकानों के पुराने ठेकों को नया करने के बजाय फिर से आवेदन पत्र ले कर नये ठेके देने का विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) जिन ठेकेदारों के विरुद्ध अब तक किसी प्रकार की कोई शिकायत नहीं हैं उनके ठेके किन कारणों से स्वत: नये नहीं कर दिये जाते ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) to (c). Recently instructions were issued to Railway Administrations that fresh applications should be called for, instead of renewing old ones, in respect of contracts which have been in force for a period of six years in the case of vending and Refreshment rooms and ten years in the case of Restaurants and Restaurant cars.

The reason for this action is to find out whether, after such a long period, any person capable of giving better service is available.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : जब सरकार के पास इस तरह की जानकारी है कि कुछ स्टेशनों पर ऐसे ठेकेदार हैं जिन के विरुद्ध किसी प्रकार की शिकायत नहीं है तो क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि उन के लाइसेंस नये करने की आवश्यकता क्यों अनुभव हुई, और ऐसा क्यों किया जा रहा है ?

Mr. Speaker: He is asking about those who have been working satisfactorily and against whom there was no complaint.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: They would be taken into consideration and we would see whether the contract cannot be renewed.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : मेरा प्रश्न यह नहीं था। मेरा प्रश्न यह था कि जिन ठेकेदारों के खिलाफ कोई शिकायत है ही नहीं उन के लाइसेंस क्यों फिर से नये कराने की आवश्यकता हुई।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जब मियाद खत्म हो गई तो नये तो होंगे ही। मियाद खत्म हो जाने के बाद वे नये क्यों न करायें।

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : मियाद खत्म होने के कारण ऐसा नहीं किया जा रहा है। उन की नीति कुछ और है। वे दूसरों को लाना चाहते हैं उन को हटा कर।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : तब तो आप यह पूछिये कि क्या मियाद खत्म होने के पहले किसी के ठेके को टरमिनेट किया गया।

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि समय से पहले आवेदन पत्र मांग कर नये लाइसेंस देने के लिये जो लोगों को आमंत्रित किया जा रहा है इस का क्या कारण है ?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: In the case of refreshment rooms and vending, the contract is for three years. In the case of restaurants and restaurant cars, it is for 5 years. Generally it is renewable provided certain conditions are observed.

Mr. Speaker: The question is whether there are some cases where tenders have been or are being invited

before the expiry of the term of lease of the previous contractor?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I am not aware of that.

श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद : यदि सरकार यह नई व्यवस्था इसलिये लागू करने जा रही है कि इस से जलपानगृहों का स्तर ऊंचा हो तो क्या सरकार ने इस तरह भी कोई ध्यान दिया है कि सरकार के नियंत्रण में जो जलपान-गृह चल रहे हैं उन के स्तर को ऊंचा करने के लिये भी कोई कदम उठाया जाये, यदि हां तो वह क्या है ?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: We are making a very determined effort to improve departmental catering.

श्री श्याम प्रसाद : क्या ऐसे भी टी स्टाल और फूड स्टाल कई स्टेशनों पर हैं जिन को कोई मिनिस्टर या एम० पी० अपनी बीवियों के नाम से चला रहे हैं । यदि हां, तो उन की मियाद छः साल होगी या दस साल होगी ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो आप इन्सिनुएशन कर रहे हैं ।

श्री रामसेवक यादव : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने बतलाया कि अच्छी सेवा देने के लिये यह व्यवस्था की जा रही है । मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या मंत्री महोदय के पास इस प्रकार की शिकायतें भी आई हैं कि ज्यादातर ठेके जो हैं वे बिचौलियों को दिये गये हैं । उन की सबलेटिंग हुई हैं, जिस के कारण अच्छी सेवा नहीं मिल रही है । इस सबलेटिंग के विरुद्ध क्या कार्रवाई हो रही है ।

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: If there is sub-letting, the contract will be terminated. This is one of the conditions which has to be observed, namely, that there should not be any sub-letting. We would be thankful to hon. Members if they bring to our notice cases of sub-letting. If it is found that there is sub-letting, we will terminate the contract.

श्री रामसेवक यादव : बहुत सी जगहों पर कोई कार्रवाई नहीं हुई ।

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know at what level the applications for giving contracts are decided?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: At various levels.

Mr. Speaker: What are those various levels?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It is decided at the divisional level if the contract is small. If it is big, it is decided at higher level.

Shri A. P. Sharma: One of the recommendations of the Kripalani Committee to render better catering service to the travelling public was to have private catering side by side with departmental catering. May I know why that recommendation has not been implemented in most of the stations where there is departmental catering?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: On the Indian Railways, there are about 5000 private cateers still existing. We have got only 95 stations where there is departmental catering. Private catering is working side by side with departmental catering in certain stations.

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: May I know the number of contractors railwaywise against whom complaints were lodged during the last year?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I cannot give that information off-hand. A separate question may be asked.

Shri Bade: Is it a fact that in Bombay one ice-cream vendor was given a contract without calling tenders and the Public Accounts Committee has passed strictures against that contract? If so, what is the reason for renewing that contract without calling tenders and thereby putting the railways to a loss?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It is in the report of the Public Accounts Committee. We are looking into it.

Shri Bade: What is the reply?

Mr. Speaker: Unless he sits down as soon as he puts the question, how can he hear the answer?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I believe it is mentioned in the report of the Public Accounts Committee. We are looking into it.

Shri Ranga: Are we to understand that he said he is looking into it?

Mr. Speaker: The Public Accounts Committee have taken up that case and mentioned it in their report. They are looking into it and making enquiries.

Shri Ranga: Then there is no question of looking into it. They should know all the facts. They must have presented all the facts to the Public Accounts Committee.

Mr. Speaker: When it is brought to their notice in the report of the Public Accounts Committee they have to do something.

Shri Ranga: They have to express their regret for having done that.

Resources of Panchayati Raj Bodies

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*616. { **Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** / **Shri P. R. Chakraverti:**

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state the action taken on the basis of the Santhanam Committee Report on the the raising of resources for the Panchayati Raj bodies by the State Governments?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): The report of the Santhanam Study Team on Panchayati Raj Finances was circulated to the States in August 1963 for their considered views on the Team's recommendations. Detailed replies have so far been received from the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madras, Maharashtra, Mysore and Uttar Pradesh. These States have accepted most of the recommendations having a bearing on the raising of resources by Panchayati Raj bodies. Replies from the remaining States are awaited.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: May I know whether some of the States have also accepted the recommendation of creating a panchayati raj fund on the same pattern as in Rajastnan and, if the answer is in the affirmative, the names of those States?

Shri B. S. Murthy: All these matters are being discussed at various levels. As a matter of fact, the recommendations are nearly 114, out of which 4 relate to the Ministry at the Centre, such as the creation of the Panchayati Raj Finance Corporation, *per capita* assistance for the panchayats bodies and giving an extra amount of Rs. 400 crores in the Fourth Plan. These are being discussed. The other recommendations envisage that the zilla parishads, panchayat samitis and panchayats should raise more resources by taxation. They are also being processed.

Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Out of the States to which these recommendations were sent, how many have given permission to the panchayats to raise resources by levying various taxes?

Shri B. S. Murthy: As the hon. Member knows, there is panchayat legislation in every State under which powers are given to the panchayats to levy certain taxes.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अभी मन्त्री जी ने जवाब दिया कि कुछ स्टेट्स ने माना है । तो मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जिन स्टेट्स ने नहीं माना है उनके सम्बन्ध में हमारी सरकार क्या कार्रवाई कर रही है ।

Shri B. S. Murthy: It is not a question of not accepting. As I have already said, only six States have sent their replies.

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जिनके रिप्लाई नहीं आये हैं उनके लिये क्या कर रहे हैं ।

Shri B. S. Murthy: No negative reply so far.

Shri Kapur Singh: Is the basic predicament of the panchayat institutions adjudged as lack of sufficient material resources or poverty of moral impulsion? If the latter, have any proposals been made or are under the consideration of Government in that respect?

Shri B. S. Murthy: The Santhanam Committee has gone only into the finances and not into the other one.

Shri Ranga: When Panchayati Raj institutions are supposed to be autonomous and there is supposed to be decentralisation, are we to understand that the Government of India is taking over all the powers of the State Governments in order to give instructions to Panchayati Raj institutions to raise more and more taxes on the peasants and other people?

Shri B. S. Murthy: I do not think the hon. Member is correct in stating that the Centre is trying to impose its will on the States or the Zila Parishads. What is being done is that a committee has gone into the resources of the Panchayati Raj bodies and made its recommendations. It is for the State Governments to accept all or to reject all or to take some and then try to increase the resources of Panchayati Raj bodies. Their autonomy is not affected.

Shri M. Malaichami: May I know whether a study has been made into the depletion of Panchayati Raj bodies' resources due to wasteful expenditure and whether any remedial measures have been suggested by the Centre?

Shri B. S. Murthy: The Santhanam Committee has also made a recommendation about this.

श्री राम सेवक यादव : पंचायतों को शासन की प्रमुख इकाई बनाने के लिए क्या कोई ऐसा सुझाव भी आया है कि खजाने का एक चौथाई हिस्सा इन पंचायतों को दे दिया जाय, यदि हां, तो उस पर क्या विचार हो रहा है ?

Shri B. S. Murthy: Yes, Sir this also has been investigated and a recommendation has been made.

Shri Bade: Is it a fact that the Santhanam Committee has recommended that some portion of the land revenue should be given to Panchayats and that all the States are not following a uniform rule? What action has the Government taken?

Shri B. S. Murthy: Each State has got its own rules and regulations. Some States are trying to give the complete land revenue to the Panchayat bodies and some States are trying to give 25, 50, 75 and 80 per cent also; therefore, there cannot be any uniformity as far as this is concerned.

Shri Bade: But Bombay gives more and other States do not give at all.

Mr. Speaker: Next question. Shri Hem Raj.

Minor Irrigation

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*617. **Shri Hem Raj:**
Shri Koya:
Shri M. Rampure:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of outlays and allocations for minor irrigation to be made to various States during 1964-65;

(b) whether the amount allocated for 1963-64 has been fully utilised and its benefits reaped by the farmers for irrigation purposes; and

(c) the extent to which the production has gone up in 1962-63 and 1963-64 by their use?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The outlays and allocations for minor irrigation to be made to various States during 1964-65 are under consideration of the Government of India. However, the tentative outlays approved by the Planning Commission for minor irrigation for 1964-65 are indicated below:—

(Rs. crores)

State	Tentative outlay approved by Planning Commission for minor Irrigation (1964-65)
1. Andhra Pradesh	6·00
2. Assam	1.35
3. Bihar	3.11
4. Gujarat	3·40
5. Maharashtra	5 00
6. Kerala	1 29
7. Madhya Pradesh	3.50
8. Madras	3·47
9. Mysore	5.00
10. Orissa	1.30
11. Punjab	1.97
12. Rajasthan	1.85
13. Uttar Pradesh	10.53
14. West Bengal	4.01
15. Jammu and Kashmir	0.39
Total:—	52.17

(b) Since the financial 1963-64 is not yet over, it is now too early to give a precise idea about the likely utilisation of financial allocations made for minor irrigation for the year and the likely coverage under the scheme.

(c) It is not possible to isolate the contribution of any single input like irrigation to the agriculture production in any particular year.

Shri Hem Raj: What was the allocation that was made for minor irrigation in the year 1962-63; what was the irrigation potential that was created and how much of it was used?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In the year 1962-63 the original Budget provision was Rs. 32·08 crores; it was later on increased to Rs. 41·34 crores, but the actual amount spent comes to Rs. 37·92 crores. The area benefited comes to about 2·2 million acres.

Shri Hem Raj: May I know whether all such minor irrigation works for which electricity was required were given those connections in 1962-63?

Shri A. M. Thomas: We do not know whether all the connections that were sought for were given but we have requested the State Governments to see that priority is given to electricity connections for minor irrigation.

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: May I know whether Government have received any proposal from the Orissa Government in regard to revising the target for minor irrigation to 4·6 lakh acres as against 2·7 lakh acres during the Third Five Year Plan; if so, the reaction of Government and the additional funds proposed to be given by Government to that State?

Shri A. M. Thomas: With regard to Orissa, in the answer it has been given that the amount provided for the next year, that is, 1964-65, allocation for Orissa is Rs. 1·3 crores. For the years 1961-62 and 1962-63, as far as Orissa is concerned, the Third Plan provision was Rs. 304 lakhs and they have spent Rs. 62 lakhs in 1961-62 and Rs. 70·7 lakhs in 1962-63. It is estimated that they would be spending about Rs. 110 lakhs in 1963-64.

Shri Man Sinh P. Patel: In view of the past experience that normally the allocation to States for minor irrigation is not utilised in the respective States, how is the Government of India going to assist the State Governments in seeing that the funds allotted are spent by the respective States?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, the original allotments that have been made for each year have been exceeded. For example, for 1963-64 originally we allotted Rs. 38·86 crores; now we have allotted another Rs. 14·36 crores. It is expected that it would increase to Rs. 52·72 crores. So, also in the previous year 1962-63, we had allocated Rs. 32·08 crores but later on it was increased to Rs. 41·34 crores.

Shri Man Singh P. Patel: My question was that the allotments to the respective State are not being spent. In some States, they might have been spent.

Shri A. M. Thomas: The hon. Member is from Gujarat. As far as Gujarat is concerned, they have been allocated in 1963-64 Rs. 360 lakhs. It is estimated that they would be able to spend that amount. No additional allotment has been made.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : हमारे केन्द्रीय मन्त्रालय में तीन मन्त्री हैं और एक पार्लियामेंटरी सेक्रेटरी भी हैं। बिहार में जो रुपया दिया गया है उस का पांच परसेंट या दो परसेंट भी इन्होंने स्वतः देखा है कि यह माइनर इरीगेशन का जो काम हुआ है वह ठीक हुआ है या नहीं ठीक हुआ है और किसानों का खेत पटा है या नहीं, क्या इसकी भी जांच की गई है ?

Shri A. M. Thomas: As far as Bihar is concerned, they have been provided Rs. 126 lakhs. We have given an additional allocation of Rs. 175 lakhs. It would be their good performance if they are able to spend the entire allotment. As far as Bihar is concerned, it is not, in fact, our failure to provide additional resources. In fact, they find it difficult to have matching resources.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैंने पूछा था।

Mr. Speaker: Allocations are given by the Central Government. That is all right. What he wants to know is whether the actual performance is there or not.

Shri A. M. Thomas: With regard to Bihar, we are not quite satisfied with the performance.

Shri Tyagi: Have the Government devised any method whereby villagers who are anxious to put a tubewell or some other small irrigation scheme might avail either of a matching grant from the State Government or at least loans on easier terms? Has a complete survey of the country been made with regard to the requirements of irrigation in all villages?

Shri A. M. Thomas: As far as the particular question of private individuals is concerned, in fact, there is a provision in the budgets of the various States to give loans to private individuals to construct tubewells and other things and there would be a subsidy element also which would be 25 per cent. to be shared equally by the Centre and the State. With regard to survey, of course a survey has been made and it is on the basis of that that the target in the various Plans has been fixed—First Plan, Second Plan and the Third Plan. In the Fourth Plan also, it will be done.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : इस स्टेटमेंट में उत्तर प्रदेश को १०.५३ करोड़ दिया गया है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि उनमें से पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश में पटेल आयोग की सिफारिशों के अनुसार कितना रुपया खर्च होगा और वह किन किन चीजों में खर्च होगा ?

Shri A. M. Thomas: As far as Uttar Pradesh is concerned, they have done well on the minor irrigation front. In fact, a Plan provision of Rs. 33 crores has been set apart. In 1961-62, they have spent Rs. 7·74 crores; in 1962-63, they have spent Rs. 8·29 crores and in 1963-64, it would be Rs. 7·66 crores.

श्री विश्राम प्रसाद : मैं पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश के बारे में जानना चाहता हूं जैसा कि पटेल कमीशन ने कहा है...

Shri A. M. Thomas: I have not got the break-up. As is well-known,

particular attention is being given to eastern U.P.

Shri Jashvant Mehta: Due to the shortage of food in the country, may I know whether the Government propose to allocate more funds for minor irrigation programmes and what amount has been allocated for the same?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, it has been stated on the floor of the House that in August, 1962 we decided that the minor irrigation target should be enhanced by 20 per cent and later on we decided that the target should be enhanced by 50 per cent. It is on the basis of that that we are providing additional resources to the States which are in a position to spend.

Shri Jashvant Mehta: What amount has been allocated?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In regard to the amount allocated, it is Rs. 174.46 crores. Even for the targets that have been fixed, that provisions is not enough. There would be some supplementary provision amounting to Rs. 38·84 crores and an outlay of about Rs. 33 crores on the cooperative sector. Apart from that, the Working Group has sat on this, and the expected projection is that the total expected achievement under the GMF sector would come to about 10·4 million acres, and under the CD sector it would be 2·5 million acres. The target in the Third Plan is 12·8 million acres, so that it will be exceeded to some extent, but all the same, if we are able to reach the target provided in the Third Plan, it is a great thing.

श्री कछवाय : केन्द्र से भिन्न भिन्न राज्यों को छोटी सिंचाई योजनाओं के लिए सहायता दी जाती है । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या कोई ऐसा व्यक्ति केन्द्र की ओर से मुकर्रर किया गया है जो यह देखे कि कौन से राज्य इसका ठीक उपयोग करते हैं और कौन राज्य इसका दूसरे कामों में उपयोग कर लेते हैं ?

Shri A. M. Thomas: That is a general question. If the hon. Member asks me about any particular State, I can give an idea of the performance in that State, but if he asks me generally then it is not possible for me to give an answer.

श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : क्या केन्द्र की ओर से कोई व्यक्ति नियुक्त किया गया है ?

Shri Bade: There was some criticism about this in the papers, and it was said that there would be some special officers in the States to look after this work. कुछ किया गया है या केवल विचार ही चल रहा है ?

Shri A. M. Thomas: This relates to minor irrigation. In fact, our irrigation advisers visit the various States. Central teams consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the Planning Commission, and the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation visit the various States and assess the performance of each State. It is based on that that we allocate additional resources.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It has come out in the papers that the Production Board is ready to subsidise the farmers availing themselves of electricity. May I know whether any specific amount has been set apart for this purpose?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, that question has been considered, but no final decision has been taken, and we have referred the matter to the various States.

Service Stations on Highways

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*618. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:** / **Shri S. C. Samanta:**

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to put up service and repair stations

on the highways particularly on G.T. Road;

(b) if so, whether these stations will be put up by the Central Government or State Governments; and

(c) who will decide the location of such station?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). No such specific proposal is under Government's consideration. However, it is Government's policy to encourage and assist in the provision of road-side facilities. Oil Companies and Automobile manufacturers have already put up service and repair stations on the highways either themselves or through their dealers, on a number of places.

Shri Subodh Hansda: In order to facilitate road transport system in our country, particularly on the highways, is it not necessary to open such service-*cum*-repair stations?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The need is evident, and we try to encourage and promote the provision of these facilities as best as we can. The question is one of agency.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any control is there on the agencies which are functioning at present as service and repair stations, including the oil companies?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In the very nature of things, repair facilities and facilities for servicing of motor vehicles are a matter on which direct Government control may not be possible and may not even be advisable; but if there is some exploitation, we would like to have specific complaints in that regard so that we could deal with them.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it not a fact that some time back the hon. Minister was very categorical in his statement that road transport was not going to be nationalised? If it is not going to be nationalised, how do Government propose to co-ordinate the work of these different agencies? Do they want to have these agencies through the State Governments or do they want to have their control over them?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have not made any statement to the effect that road transport cannot be nationalised. I have said that all the road transport all over the country cannot be nationalised in a short time. I have said that we have to regulate the pace of nationalisation first on the bigger routes, major routes and inter-State routes. We cannot nationalise the rural routes or the district routes. That was all that I said.

Shri Bade: Is it a fact that on the Agra-Bombay road there are no repair stations and the oil companies have also not started any repair stations? May I know whether the Central Government propose to give any aid to the State Government to start such repair stations?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The question can be split up in two parts. One is about the facilities for repair and servicing of vehicles of the State Transport Undertaking. The State Governments can do that, and they do normally provide such facilities. Whether these facilities can also be availed of by the private operators is a matter which has to be tackled by the State Governments concerned.

Shri Bade: But the hon. Minister has said that the oil companies have started repair stations, but on the Agra-Bombay road which passes through my constituency, there is not a single repair station started by the oil companies.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I shall look into that, if the hon. Member writes to me.

Air-India Advertisement Campaign

*619. **Shri Inder J. Malhotra:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Air-India advertisement campaigns are

being handled by some foreign advertising agency;

(b) if so, the name of the agency and tenure of the contract;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there had been some complaints regarding their advertising campaigns; and

(d) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) I lay a statement on the Table of the House giving the required information.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

U.K. and Europe.—M/s. Trio Advertising, Avenue de la Gare 23, Lausanne, Switzerland.

U.S.A. and Canada.—M/s. Van Brunt & Co., 355, Lexington Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.

Australia and New Zealand.—M/s. Coudrey Gotham Associates Pty Ltd., 155—159 Castlereagh St., Sydney.

East Africa.—M/s. S. H. Bensen, Eastern Africa Ltd., Nairobi.

Thailand.—M/s. Broarke and Co. Ltd., 8, Susarn Lane, Silom Road, Bangkok.

Malayasia.—M/s. Papineau Advertising, Suite 22-A, Clemenceau House, Clemenceau Avenue, Singapore 9.

Hong Kong.—M/s. Cathay Ltd., 309, Prince's Building, Ice House Street, Hong Kong.

Japan.—M/s. Falcon Advertising & P.R. Taneike Meifan Bld., 30, asaka Taneike, Minato-ku, Tokyo.

As far as the area comprising India, Pakistan and Ceylon is concerned, the Air-India have entrusted their advertising to M/s. J. Walter Thompson Co. Pvt. Ltd., Laxmi Building, Sir P. M. Road, Bombay 1. This advertising agent also handles the Air India's advertising in such international media as 'Time', 'Life' and 'Newsweek' and the advertisements prepared by them are used at times in East Africa and Far East. M/s. Walter Thompson Co. Pvt. Ltd. is an Indian concern and was incorporated in 1938.

Air-India follows the normal trade practice of appointing advertising agents by exchange of letters in which no fixed period is indicated. These arrangements are, however, terminable by a suitable notice period, if the quality of their work is not upto the required standard.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: You would recall that during the last two years three or four times there has been an uproar regarding the advertising campaign of Air India. Now the hon. Minister says that there has been no complaint regarding this.

Shri Mohiuddin: I know. For example, there was a question in the House also a year before regarding its advertisements. It was not a recent complaint. The answer relates to there being no recent complaint.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: What action has been taken or what consideration was given to the sentiments of this House regarding this?

Shri Mohiuddin: I had already stated in the House on that occasion that instructions had been given to the management that salacious advertisements or Pictures to which objection could be taken should not be given out.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Has the hon. Minister's attention been drawn to the calendar produced this year by Air-India in which there are one or two rather objectionable drawings or paintings?

Shri Mohiuddin: I have not received any complaint.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: Has the hon. Minister seen it?

Shri Mohiuddin: I have not seen it myself. If the hon. Member can send it to me, I shall look into it.

Shri Hem Barua: Some years back there was a question on the floor of the House that Air India International had put up an advertisement in London which said:

"Georgie Porgie kissed on the sly.

An Air-India hostess, she did not cry.

Our passengers, luckily on the whole,

Show a certain amount of self-control".

We wanted that advertisement to be removed from the London Office. Has it been removed?

Shri Mohiuddin: I am very happy that that advertisement which had appeared three years ago is still remembered in whole verse by the hon. Member. That shows it has had a very good impact on his mind.

Mr. Speaker: Is he happy about the advertisement?

Shri Mohiuddin: That advertisement had been withdrawn long ago.

Shri Hem Barua: He says it is pornographic and that is why I remember it. That is not so. I like good advertisement. I do not have a liking for pornography.

शाहदरा-सहारनपुर लाइट रेलवे

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*६२१. **श्री ओंकारलाल बेरवा :**
श्री महेश्वर नायक :
श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय :

क्या **रेलवे** मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या शाहदरा-सहारनपुर लाइट रेलवे के बन्द होने की सम्भावना है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

Messrs. Martin Burn Ltd., Managing Agents-Shahdara-Saharanpur Light Railway, addressed the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh recently (28th January, 1964) bringing out that, owing to increasing road competition and mounting costs, the financial position of the Railway had deteriorated seriously, and that they were faced with the prospects of closing down the Railway. The management have requested the State Government to extend their help and active cooperation in the matter of reducing road competition and giving immediate financial aid. The reactions of the State Government are awaited.

It is, therefore, premature for the Union Government to indicate the possibility of Shahdara-Saharanpur Light Railway being closed down. The Ministry of Railways have addressed an enquiry to the State Government of U.P. asking what steps the State Government propose to take in the matter.

श्री ओंकारलाल बेरवा : आपको पता है कि इस लाइन पर काफी भीड़ रहती है । मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या इस लाइन को मध्य लाइन और अपर लाइन में बदलने का कोई विचार है ?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Dasappa): The question does not arise at all, because it is privately owned.

श्री ओंकारलाल बेरवा : मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस वक्त इसकी वार्षिक आय क्या है और इसको मीटरगेज या ब्राडगेज में बदलने के बाद अनुमानतः कितनी आय हो सकती है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो प्राइवेट कम्पनी है ।

श्री ओंकारलाल बेरवा : इसकी वार्षिक आमदनी कितनी है ।

Shri Dasappa: Its present position does not seem to be very happy. The last time it earned a profit in 1959-60. But it is a matter between the railway owners and the State Government, as the trouble seems to have arisen because of competition from road transport. The local Government seems to have licensed a number of vehicles and the Railway is not happy about it.

श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि शामली-सहारनपुर लाइट रेलवे को भारत सरकार अपने हाथ में लेने का विचार कर रही है: यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

Shri Dasappa: I have already answered that that que tion has not arisen now. It may arise later on, but just now it is not before the Government.

Collection of Motor Vehicle Taxes

*623. **Shri Mansinh P. Patel:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Transport Development Council has recommended a single agency for collecting various taxes on motor vehicles; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government in this matter?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the Sabha

STATEMENT

(a) Yes.

(b) The State Governments concerned, *viz.*, Assam, B har, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Madras, Maharashtra, Mysore, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh, were requested to implement the recommendation of the Transport Development Council. According to the information available at present, there is already a single agency for the collection of the motor vehicles tax and taxes on passengers and goods carried by road in Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra, Madras, Mysore and Uttar Pradesh. The matter is under the consideration of the Governments of Bihar, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Punjab. The Government of Assam have stated that there are practical difficulties in implementing the recommendation, as tax also levied in Assam on goods carried by water. The Government of Madhya Pradesh have not yet communicated their decision and the question is being pursued with them.

Shri Mansinh P. Patel: In view of the fact that some States have found it difficult to accept this because there are taxes on waterways also, how is Government going to make all the States accept this uniform system of a single agency?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The idea is that, in order to remove the inhibitory factors that operate against the smooth flow of road transport traffic, we should try to minimise the number of places and posts and agencies where taxes have to be paid, and with that end in view, it was considered desirable by the Transport Development Council, on which are represented the Ministers of the various State Governments, that so far as possible there should be a single collecting agency for as many taxes on motor vehicles as possible, and that is exactly what is being done.

Shri Mansinh P. Patel: There are different rates of passenger and goods taxes in the different States. May I know whether Government has anything in mind to find out a uniform pattern for all the different States?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The idea is not for uniformity of taxes so much. They may differ from State to State. The idea is to have a single collecting agency, although we would very

much like to have uniformity in rates of taxation also.

Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: May I know by what time the recommendation of the TDC will be implemented throughout the country?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It requires the solution of many complicated problems, particularly what authority would collect. There are some States which have already undertaken that. Others may follow suit in course of time.

श्री कछवाय : हाल ही में मध्य प्रदेश में बसों के किराये ७० प्रतिशत बढ़ा दिये गए हैं, जिसके कारण जनता में बहुत असन्तोष है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या सरकार को इस बारे में कोई शिकायतें मिली हैं, यदि हां, तो वह किरायों को कम करने के बारे में में क्या उपाय कर रही है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : वह तो अलग सवाल है। यह सवाल कनेक्शन आफ मोटर टैक्सिक के बारे में है।

Imphal-Dimapur National Highway

***624. Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridges destroyed by the hostile Nagas on the Imphal-Dimapur National Highway during the period from 1st April, 1963 to the end of February, 1964;

(b) how far the damaged bridges have been rebuilt or repaired; and

(c) steps taken to prevent recurrence of the damages?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) One bridge of 30 ft. span at mile 44; and one span of 60 ft. of another bridge of such 4 spans at mile 91.

(b) (i) A temporary bridge and subway at mile 44 was provided the same day and traffic allowed to pass.

(ii) A temporary diversion on down stream of the main bridge at mile 91 was completed on the next day of the incident, and vehicular traffic and convoy moved along the diversion uninterrupted. The erection of bailey bridging on the damaged span was later completed on the 7th February, 1964.

(c) (i) Bridge No. 1 is situated in Nagaland where all important bridges in the area are being guarded. The damaged bridge is a minor bridge and it is not possible to guard all such minor bridges.

(ii) Bridge at mile 91 lies in Manipur State and arrangements to guard important bridges have been made after this incident.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether it is not a fact that most of the bridges destroyed are located very close to the security posts; if so, why such damage to the bridges could not be averted?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is essentially a security question, and sometimes, despite the best efforts, maybe somebody succeeds in committing mischief.

Shri Rishang Keishing: May I know whether Government has tried to find out the sources of the supply of the explosives used for the destruction of the bridges; if so, how far Government have succeeded?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The question has to be addressed to a different Ministry.

Stamp in honour of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

***625. Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that the 55 nP stamp issued on the

23rd January, 1964, the sixty-seventh birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, depicts a flag which was never used by him or by the Azad Hind Fauj or by the Arzi Hukumat-e-Azad Hind, during the Second World War;

(b) if so, how the error crept in; and

(c) the action being taken to rectify the error?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Attention has been drawn through one Newspaper which has reported that the wrong flag has been depicted in the 55 nP stamp issue in honour of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

The factual position is that Netaji accepted the tricolour with Charkha as the official flag for the Indian Independence Movement in East Asia [*Shri H. V. Kamath*: When?] and when the provisional Government of Azad Hind was formed, the tricolour with the Charkha was adopted as the State Flag of the Provisional Government.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Here is an enlargement of that stamp with the charkha spindle jutting out at the side.

Mr. Speaker: He may put the question.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Considering that several books have been published on this matter which show Netaji's flag, the Azad Hind Fauj flag or of the Arzi Hakumat-e-Azad Hind as the tricolour with a leaping tiger on it, is the Government aware of the widespread impression that this flag has been deliberately designed on this 55 nP stamp by the ruling party to exploit the name of even that great liberator-warrior-statesman for party purposes?

Shri Bhagavati: I am sorry that an attempt has been made to raise doubts about the authenticity of the design. As a matter of fact there is absolutely no reason to question the authenticity of this design. Netaji used this flag. The Netaji Research Centre in Calcutta have confirmed it. We have also consulted many other people who are likely to know better on this subject....

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Where is the Deputy Minister, Shri Shahnawaz Khan? Is he here?

Shri Bhagavati: I can tell Mr. Kamath that the leaping tiger was there when he worked in Germany.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: No, no; even when he liberated Kohima.

Shri Bhagavati: That flag was never used by Netaji or INA in Asia.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: May I know who designed—I want the name of the philatelic expert—who designed this flag and also who approved of this design? Is it the present Minister Shri Asoka Sen or his predecessor, Shri Jagjivan Ram?

Shri Bhagavati: There is a philately committee which selects and suggests designs.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: May I know tha names of members of that committee?

Shri Bhagavati: There are some representatives of philatelic associations; there are some others. I cannot give the names of the members of that committee just now.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Which Minister approved of it? I asked that question also.

Shri Bhagavati: The committee approved it.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: I understand it came to the Minister; I have some personal knowledge. I want to know which Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Does it come for approval by the Minister?

Shri Bhagavati: No it is not necessary.

Shri Ranga: Am I to understand that the Government regret the mistake that had been made in view of the fact that when Subhas Bose became Netaji he was no longer a member of the Congress although he had been previously President of the Congress and so on and later on he had actually been expelled from the Congress and he built up the INA?

Shri Bhagavati: I am very sorry. It is a matter of fact; it is absolutely certain that Netaji's Azad Hind Fauj used this flag with tricolour and charkha; no other flag was used by him.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: We shall produce documentary evidence later on.

Mr. Speaker: In this manner, we cannot proceed.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: In what manner, Sir? I am sorry. I only said that we would produce documentary evidence later on.

Mr. Speaker: No interruptions like this.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: This is Parliament. I am sorry for your attitude—I do not know.... (*Interruptions*).

Shri Nath Pai: In view of the fact that all this confusion and misunderstanding arises because of the very close resemblance of the party flag of the ruling party to the Naional Flag, will the Prime Minister consider the desirability of designing a flag which is dissimilar to the National Flag?

Mr. Speaker: It is a different question. Shri Karni Singhji.

Shri Nath Pai: My question has not been answered.

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion.

Viscount Aircraft Service

*626. **Shri Karni Singhji:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the engine of the Viscount aircraft service IC-402 which was scheduled to leave Calcutta for Delhi at 19-15 hrs. on the 2nd March 1964 caught fire while it was being tested on the ground;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the alternative arrangement made for the stranded passengers and at what time they left for Delhi?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The Viscount aircraft which was to operate the Calcutta/Delhi service No. 402 on 2nd March, 1964 had completed Gauhati/Calcutta service No. 214. After the aircraft was parked, smoke was observed from the right hand wheel brake assembly. The aircraft was withdrawn from service for rectification of defect. The Calcutta/Delhi service was operated by the incoming Viscount aircraft from Madras at 2230 hours, 3 hours 15 minutes behind the scheduled time.

Shri Karni Singhji: May I know the number of occasions on which fire has been noticed on the Viscount aircraft, and whether the Government would be good enough to tell us if this fire had taken place while the aircraft was in flight, whether we have sufficient internal fire-fighting equipment to prevent the fire spreading, or, would the aircraft be destroyed?

Shri Mohiuddin: As soon as the fire was observed, it was extinguished. Of course, the fire-fighting service was there. As for the proader question concerning the number of

occasions on which fire has been noticed in the Viscounts, if hon Member wants more information, I will collect it. But there are very few cases of fire.

12·00 hrs.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Virginia Tobacco Market

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S.N.Q. 10. **Shri Ranga:**
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:
Shri Kolla Venkaiah:
Shri M. N. Swamy:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Virginia tobacco market has crashed at Guntur and other coastal districts of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the farmers are being offered unremunerative prices against the minimum price fixed by Government and the State Trading Corporation;

(c) whether more than 4,000 tons of high grade Virginia tobacco remains unsold resulting in loss of Rs. 3 crores in foreign exchange to Government; and

(d) if so, what immediate steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Although the tobacco crop comes in the market in the middle of January, there have been no substantial sales of Virginia tobacco for want of a settlement about the price of tobacco between the growers and the traders.

(b) There is no minimum support price fixed for tobacco either operational or statutory. The Government has fixed minimum export prices for different grades of tobacco. The prices offered by traders are somewhat lower than that of last year.

(c) The foreign demand for tobacco continues to be at about the same level as last year and if the growers and traders arrive at a mutually satisfactory settlement, there will be no reduction in foreign exchange earnings.

(d) Attempts are being made jointly by the Andhra Pradesh Government and the Indian Central Tobacco Committee to bring about a settlement between the growers and traders regarding the prices to be offered for the current crop. It is also proposed to extend the provisions of the Central Warehousing Corporation Act as well as the State Warehousing Corporation Act to tobacco so that growers can obtain advances from scheduled banks on warehouse receipts for tobaco.

Shri Ranga: This is an excellent example of the way in which the Government depreciates the actual fact of things and then makes it appear as if there is no crisis at all. Is it not a fact that the Minister of Agriculture of the Andhra Pradesh Government had himself come over here along with so many others representing the marketers as well as growers and represented the true facts of the position there, and said that the position is very serious that the growers are suffering, and that the traders are not able to find any market because the IMTD and various other exporters are not prepared to take tobacco there?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes, Sir. But what the hon. Member has just now said regarding the Goverment is totally different from the actual facts, because, the Government was so alert that it pointed out the difficulty at the nick of time, and the Minister of Agriculture of the Andhra Pradesh Government has taken up the matter with the Central Tobacco Committee as well as the Government of India, and we are going to extend the Warehousing Corporation Act and are going to advance money so that the growers are not put to loss.

Shri Ranga: Am I to understand that the Government of India has assured the Andhra Pradesh Government that if they were to help the

farmers to store their tobacco in the Government warehouses, the Andhra Pradesh Government would be enabled to advance credit to the farmers with the help of the Reserve Bank of India and the State Bank?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The whole matter is being discussed. I would have been happy had the hon. Member pointed out the fact earlier than the Agriculture Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: Is it not a fact that this year the trouble is more about the flu-cured virginia tobacco, unlike in other years? In other years, the low grade variety was in trouble. This year it is the high-grade variety. May I know whether there is any proposal either with the Ministry of Agriculture or with the Ministry of International Trade to reduce the price of the high-grade variety a little and increase the price of the low-grade variety for which there is great demand, so that there may be a balanced market for both?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: We will examine this. But the price is not at present as low as it was in the month of January, because after 25th February, it has started rising and we hope that the measures that we will be taking will enable the prices to go up further.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether this crisis has taken place due to the low off-take in the European market?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Yes, Sir.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: May I know what is the present difference between the prices offered last year and the prices offered by the traders this year and what specific steps the Government of India and the State Government have taken jointly to secure a settlement and along what particular lines?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The prices offered last year for Grade I virginia tobacco varied between Rs. 285 to Rs. 370 per quintal, whereas this year the prices vary between Rs. 245 to Rs. 350 per quintal. About the latter part of the question, we have taken up the matter and we hope that the objective will be achieved.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: That they have taken up the matter, we have been told. But what steps have the Government taken and along what lines towards a settlement?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: As I read out in the main reply, the Central and State Warehousing Acts are going to be extended to it, but that will depend on the Andhra Pradesh Assembly passing a resolution.

Mr. Speaker: That he has already said.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: On a point of order, Sir. The answer does not relate to the question I put. The extension of the Central Warehousing Act is not in any way the term of settlement between the growers and the traders. We want to know along what line the Government of India and the State Government are trying to secure a settlement and what are those terms.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Actually this is a a settlement, because the traders do intend that they should earn more profit. But what we are interested in is that we should enable the grower to deposit their stocks in the warehouses, so that they may not be forced to sell at the traders' prices. When the export quantum increases, then they will be able to take higher prices for their tobacco. But at the same time, the Agriculture Minister of Andhra Pradesh had a meeting both with the growers as well as the traders where our Central Tobacco Committee representatives were also present. He is impressing upon the traders not to take advantage of the situation. That is the effort that was made by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. By extending this facility we believe

that the growers will be put in a better position.

Shri Ranga: In view of the fact that the generic term 'traders' includes not only those who are in India, but also international traders, including USSR, may we have the assurance that the Minister of International Trade, when he attends the U.N. Conference will use his good offices in order to ease the situation and obtain greater orders for our tobacco of various grades?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): Actually speaking, the exports of tobacco last year have shown a record figure—Rs. 4·75 crores more than any time in the previous years. The real difficulty is as one of the hon. Members was pointing out, when the going was good, instead of producing the quality which was sold in much abundance, they have produced a littler larger surplus of the higher variety of the flue-cured Virginia tobacco which has not so much world market. I have cautioned all the producers that they must keep down the ratio of the high grade and produce more of the medium grade. Secondly, we have lifted all the restrictions so that we can send to the East European countries as much of the tobacco as possible. With the steps enumerated by my hon. colleague in the Ministry of Agriculture and with the several steps we have already taken, I am quite sure the position will improve considerably.

Shri Ranga: What did he say with regard to the assurance . . .

Mr. Speaker: Normally, assurances are not given during the question hour.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Micro-wave System in Assam

***611. Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 500 on the 10th December, 1963 and state:

(a) the progress made in the installation of the micro-wave system in Assam;

(b) when the installation is likely to be completed; and

(c) the names of the places which are to be linked with this system?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Detailed engineering survey by the manufacturer's engineers has been completed and installation details finalised. Acquisition of sites is in progress.

(b) The installation is expected to be completed by March, 1965.

(c) 1. Calcutta.
2. Asansol.
3. Katihar.
4. Cooch Behar.
5. Siliguri
6. Darjeeling.
7. Shillong.
8. Gauhati.
9. Tezpur.
10. Jorhat.
11. Dibrugarh.
12. Tinsukia.

Dry Dock Facilities

***615. Shri Indrajit Gupta:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Pottekkatt:
Shri A. V. Raghavan:
Shri Kappen:

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether dry dock facilities in Indian ports are now lagging far behind the growth of Indian shipping;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made of the foreign exchange spent annually on repairing Indian ships abroad; and

(c) whether Government have received and considered any scheme in this respect for expansion of dry dock facilities?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2542/64].

Modernisation of Postal Services

*620. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the pilot studies for modernisation of postal services; and

(b) when they are likely to be finalised and implemented?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Since the techniques as well as the equipment employed in the postal services are always undergoing improvement, this must necessarily be a continuous process.

STATEMENT

Particulars of mechanical aids	Present position relating to their introduction
1	2
(a) Slot machines for vending postal stationery	Consequent on the successful conclusion of the pilot studies, it is proposed to install to begin with 290 slot machines for vending postal stationery. A majority of these is likely to be produced indigenously.
(b) Slot machines for vending postage stamps	One slot machine capable of dispensing 5 nP postage stamps has been found to function successfully even under conditions of high humidity. The feasibility of large scale production of the stamp rolls required for such machines is under examination.
(c) Coin changers	100 coin changers of indigenous manufacture are being brought into use mostly in the bigger post offices in India.
(d) Stamp emitters	The prototypes required for experimental purposes are still awaited from the manufacturers.
(e) Machine to facilitate the booking of parcels	Before the machine imported for this purpose is put on trial, the changes involved in the accounting procedure have to be finalised. This is being done.
(f) Machines to facilitate booking of money orders.	The question of evolving a suitable machine is under consideration.
(g) Stamp cancelling machines.	A prototype manufactured indigenously has been put on field trial. 183 imported machines are already in use.
(h) Bundling machines.	Six bundling machines are being imported from abroad. One imported machine is already in use.
(i) Machine for cleaning date stamps & seals	A suitable prototype is being evolved.

1	2
(j) Self indicating weighting scales.	Standards have been laid down for their large scale introduction.
(k) Adrema printing machine	
(l) Numbering machines	
(m) Battery driven trucks	Three trucks required for experimental purposes are being imported from abroad.
(n) Conveyors	A conveyor system has been successfully installed at Delhi Air Sorting Office. Schemes to extend the use of conveyors progressively for the halnding of mails in the larger offices are under consideration.

Incentive for Research in Agriculture

***622. Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah**: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has taken a decision to award the Rafi Ahmad Kidwai Memorial Prizes to those who have outstanding research in the field of agriculture and allied subjects; and

(b) if so, whether agricultural extension has been included in the list?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

Export of Sugar

***627. Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri Bade:
Shri R. Barua:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of sugar to be exported during the current financial year in respect of which agreements have already been entered into; and

(b) whether in view of the shortage of sugar in the country, precautions will be taken to export less sugar?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Contracts for export of 2·00 lakh tonnes of sugar have so far been signed for export during 1964.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Special Jet Allowance

***628. Shri P. C. Borooah:**
Shri Indrajit Gupta:
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association had recently demanded grant of special jet allowance to those pilots who fly the jets and;

(b) if so, Government's decision thereon?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of meetings were held between the Management of the Indian Airlines and representatives of the Indian Commercial Pilots' Association as a result of which a settlement has been reached and also approved by the Board of the Corporation at their meeting held on 12th March, 1964. Formal proposals in this, regard from the Corporation are awaited by the Government.

Loans to Agriculturists

***629. Shri Maheswar Naik:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Community**

Development and Co-operation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the short and medium term loans for agricultural development to be advanced through the co-operative societies during the Third Five Year Plan period are proposed to be drastically flashed; and

(b) if so, to what extent, the reasons therefor and the manner in which the requirements for the said purpose are proposed to be met during the said period?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) and (b). Against a target of Rs. 512 crores set up by the State Governments for the supply of short and medium term credit during the last year of the Third Five Year Plan, the co-operatives supplied Rs. 228 crores in 1961-62. The provisional figures for 1962-63 are Rs. 256 crores and the estimate for 1963-64 is Rs. 318 crores. The progress is not upto the expectations and the target is unlikely to be reached.

The reasons are (a) weakness of the credit structure particularly at the primary level (b) organisational deficiencies (c) increasing trend of overdues (d) defective loaning policies etc. A detailed action programme for removing these deficiencies has been drawn up and circulated to State Governments. It is expected that when the programme is implemented there will be appreciable progress.

Import of Rice

*630. { **Shri Inder J. Malhotra:**
Shri E. Madhusudan Rao:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the total imports of rice made so far during 1963-64;

(b) the names of countries from which it was imported; and

(c) the total amount of foreign exchange spent?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) 4,73,948 metric tons during the period of 1st April, 1963 to 29th February, 1964.

(b) U.S.A., Burma and Republic of Vietnam.

(c) Rice from U.S.A. was imported under P.L. 480 against rupee payment. The foreign exchange paid towards freight of this rice was about Rs. 107 lakhs. From other countries rice was imported against foreign exchange amounting to about Rs. 787 lakhs.

दावतों में निमंत्रित व्यक्तियों की संख्या सीमित करना

६३१. { **श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा :**
श्री राम सहाय पाण्डेय :

क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्र सरकार ने राज्य सरकारों को सलाह दी है कि दावतों तथा समारोहों में भोजन करने के लिए आमंत्रित अतिथियों की संख्या सीमित करें;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या सीमा निश्चित करने का विचार है ; और

(ग) क्या यह निर्णय संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों में भी लागू होगा ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अ० म० थामस):(क) से (ग). भोज और पार्टियों में मितव्ययिता के उपाय लागू करने तथा ऐसे उत्सवों में आमन्त्रित व्यक्तियों जिन्हें भोजन खिलाया जाना है, की संख्या सीमित करने के प्रश्न पर राज्यों के खाद्य मन्त्रियों की २३ फरवरी १९६४ को हुई बैठक में विचार-विमर्श किया गया था । केन्द्रीय खाद्य तथा कृषि मन्त्री ने राज्यों तथा संघीय क्षेत्रों के प्रतिनिधियों से अपील की कि वे इस विषय पर विचार करें तथा अपने अपने

राज्यों में इस सम्बन्ध में उचित आदेश जारी करें ।

U. S. Assistance to Hotel Industry

*632. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:**
Shri Warior:
Shri Prabhat Kar:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been received from the U.S. concern of Hiltons' Hotels for developing hotels in India;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to take U.S. assistance for the State sector of the hotel industry?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The proposal recently received from Hilton Hotels International is in respect of one hotel each at Delhi, Bombay and Calcutta. The proposal is being studied in the Ministries of Transport and Finance.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

Committees and Sub-Committees

1201. Shrimati Laxmi Bai: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of standing and *Ad-hoc* Committees and Sub-Committees within the Ministry existing at present; and

(b) the total number of Members appointed on those Committees?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) 213.

(b) 3,769.

Air Services to Andamans

1202. Shri Rajaram: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to arrange an additional air trip between Andamans and Mainland; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Rayagada-Jeypore Telegraph Circuit

1203. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2488 on the 30th April, 1963 and state the progress made so far regarding the establishment of a direct telephone circuit between Rayagada and Jeypore (Koraput District) in Orissa?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): Due to non-availability of stores it was not possible to establish direct telephone circuit between Rayagada and Jeypore. The direct telephone circuit is likely to be provided by July, 1964.

Telephones in Panchayat Samithis in Orissa

1204. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Panchayat Samithi Offices in Orissa provided with telephone as on the 31st December, 1963; and

(b) the number of Panchayat Samithis Offices in that State to be provided with telephones during 1964-65?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) and (b). Demand for providing telephone facilities at 311 Panchayat Samithi offices in

Orissa was received from the State Government. Out of these, 121 have been provided by 31-12-1963. Sanction has been issued for providing these facilities at 11 more Samithi offices during 1964-65.

P & T Quarters at Bhubaneswar

1205. Shri Ramachandra Ulaka: Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of Post and Telegraph quarters at Bhubaneswar-1 (Orissa); and

(b) when the construction work would be completed?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) Sanction for construction of quarters has been accorded at a cost of Rs. 9,42,500.

(b) About two years.

सम्बलपुर तितलागढ़ रेलवे लाइन

१२०६. श्री किशन पटनायक : क्या **रेलवे** मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सम्बलपुर-तितलागढ़ लाइन (दक्षिण-पूर्व रेलवे) पर यात्री रेलगाड़ियां कब से चलने लगेंगी ?

रेलवे मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सें० वें० रामस्वामी) : सम्बलपुर-टिटलागढ़ सेक्शन अभी इस लायक नहीं है कि उस पर यात्री गाड़ियां चलायी जायं। जैसे ही रेल-पथ पर्याप्त रूप से सुदृढ़ हो जायेगा और यात्रियों के लिए आवश्यक न्यूनतम सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था हो जायेगी, सेक्शन यात्री यातायात के लिए खोल दिया जायेगा।

Rajmahalghat Ferry Service

1207. Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1339 on the 10th December, 1963 regarding tickets on the ferry service between Rajmahalghat (Bihar) and Manickchanghat (West Bengal) and state:

(a) why tickets priced in annas were being allowed to be issued though annas had ceased to be legal tenders;

(b) whether the issue of such tickets have been discontinued; and

(c) whether tickets now issued are being priced in Naya Paise and not in annas?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) O'd tickets printed in annas, which were in stock, were used but fares in naya paisa were charged.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Yes Sir.

States' Quota of Rice and Wheat

1208. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States which have been given additional quota for rice and wheat during the last year;

(b) whether the situation in those States is normal after the supply; and

(c) if not, the steps taken to meet the situation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) to (c). The distribution requirements of wheat of all the States are met from the Central reserve. Their requirements of rice are reviewed from time to time and supplies from the Central reserve are arranged keeping in view the requirement in each case, the needs of other deficit States and the overall availability with the Central Government. The question of any additional quota as such does not, therefore, arise.

रिंग रोड, नई दिल्ली पर दुर्घटनाएं

१२०९. **श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी** : क्या **परिवहन** मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि १९६३ में रिंग रोड नई दिल्ली पर रात्रि में कितनी दुर्घटनाएं हुई ?

परिवहन मंत्रालय में नौवहन मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : ७४ ।

Destruction of Foodgrains

1210. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the total quantity of foodgrains spoiled by moisture and pests in the godowns in Delhi during the last six months?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): There was no spoilage caused by moisture and pests in the central storage depots of Delhi during 6 months ending 31st January, 1964.

Food Campaign in U. P.

1211. Shrimati Savitri Nigam: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the amount of grant to U.P. Government for grow more food campaign during 1962-63?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Under the revised procedure for rendering financial assistance to State Governments, introduced from the year 1958-59, Central assistance admissible to various State Governments is sanctioned in bulk for schemes under the head "Agricultural Production" which covers Grow More Food schemes and also includes Minor Irrigation and Land Development. Grant given to the Schemes under the head "Agriculture Production" in 1962-63 was Rs. 163·47 lakhs.

Howrah Railway Station

1212. Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Sudhansu Das:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to remodel the Howrah Railway Station;

(b) whether any plan and estimate has been prepared so far; and

(c) if so, total estimated cost of the plan?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c). There is no proposal at present for remodelling of the Station building at Howrah. It is, however, proposed to construct additional accommodation for R.M.S. Mail Agency Office in 1964-65, at an estimated cost of Rs. 2:00 lakhs. A number of schemes for additions and alterations to the yard at Howrah including lengthening of platforms are in progress and the estimated cost of all these works is Rs. 186.70 lakhs.

Railway Bridge over Subansiri River

1213. Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1380 on the 10th December, 1963 and state:

(a) whether the construction of the Subansiri River Railway Bridge has since been completed; and

(b) if so, when and the actual cost involved?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes.

(b) The construction of the bridge was completed on 30th December, 1963 and the bridge was opened to

traffic on 2-2-1964. The estimated cost of the bridge is Rs. 123 lakhs approximately. The actual cost has not been worked out yet.

Broad gauge Line from Siliguri to Jogighopa

1214. { **Shri P. C. Borooah:** / **Shri Basumatari:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 86 on the 19th November, 1963 and state:

(a) the further progress made in laying the broad gauge line from Siliguri to Jogighopa; and

(b) when it is expected to be completed?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). The sub-grade works, both earthwork and bridges, on the Project are progressing according to schedule. The steel girders required for the bridges have also been arranged. Efforts are being made to establish the link for freight traffic by the end of 1965.

रेल यात्रा में सुधार

१२१५. { **श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :** / **श्रीमती सावित्री निगम :**

क्या **रेलवे** मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान इस तथ्य की ओर आकर्षित हुआ है कि पैसेंजर गाड़ियों के धीरे चलने और उनकी अपर्याप्त संख्या के कारण सड़क द्वारा यात्रा अधिकाधिक बढ़ती जा रही है ;

(ख) क्या रेलवे बोर्ड रेलों द्वारा यात्रा को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए कोई उपाय करने का विचार कर रहा है ताकि चतुर्थ पंचवर्षीय योजना में ऐसे उपायों को क्रियान्वित किया जा सके;

(ग) क्या सरकार को यह पता है कि सड़क परिवहन से रेलवे की आय कम हो रही है और उससे चुंगी तथा करों के अपवंचन में भी मदद मिलती है ; और

(घ) यात्री और माल गाड़ियों की संख्या बढ़ाने और नई रेलवे लाइनें बनाने के लिए रेलवे बोर्ड द्वारा क्या कार्रवाई करने का विचार किया जा रहा है ?

रेलवे मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सें० वें० रामस्वामी) : (क) हाल के वर्षों में सड़क परिवहन द्वारा ढोये गये यात्री यातायात में कुछ वृद्धि हुई है । लेकिन यह जरूरी नहीं है कि यह वृद्धि सवारी गाड़ियों की धीमी रफ्तार या उनकी अपर्याप्त संख्या के कारण ही हुई हो । पंचवर्षीय आयोजनाओं के सन्दर्भ में विभिन्न प्रकार के यातायात के परिवहन के लिए उपलब्ध साधनों के अन्दर ही रेल परिवहन क्षमता का विकास किया गया है ।

(ख) कोई विस्तृत आयोजना बनाने का समय अभी नहीं आया है, क्योंकि राष्ट्र की चौथी आयोजना का आकार-प्रकार अभी निश्चित नहीं हुआ है, जिस पर रेलों की परिवहन योजना भी निर्भर है ।

(ग) दूसरे देशों की तरह इस देश में भी ऊंची दर वाले कुछ यातायात का परिवहन रेलों की बजाय सड़क के रास्ते होने लगा है । यह विशेष रूप से सड़क परिवहन के कुछ स्वाभाविक लाभ और रेलों की भाड़ा-दर व्यवस्था के कारण है । इससे रेलों की आमदनी पर कुछ हद तक बुरा असर पड़ता है । राष्ट्रीय परिवहन की एक उपयुक्त और दीर्घकालीन नीति निर्धारित करने और रेल-सड़क व्यवस्था में समन्वय रखने के लिए सर्वोत्तम तंत्र के विकास के सवाल पर परिवहन नीति और समन्वय सम्बन्धी एक उच्च स्तरीय समिति जांच कर रही है । इस समिति की सिफारिशों की प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है। सड़क परिवहन परिचालकों द्वारा चुंगी और

दूसरे करों से बच निकलने के सम्बन्ध में रेल मंत्रालय को कोई जानकारी नहीं है ।

(घ) तीसरी आयोजना में यात्री गाड़ियों की संख्या बढ़ाने के लिए जो व्यवस्था की गयी है उसका आधार यह है कि दूसरी आयोजना के अन्त में जितनी सीटें उपलब्ध थीं उनसे १५ प्रतिशत अधिक सीटें बढ़ायी जायें। उपलब्ध साधनों के भीतर चालू आयोजना अवधि विभिन्न खण्डों पर उत्तरोत्तर गाड़ियों की संख्या बढ़ायी जा रही है ।

जहां तक माल गाड़ियों का सवाल है, इसके लिए परिवहन सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था प्रारम्भिक यातायात पर आधारित है, जो तीसरी आयोजना के अन्त तक २४५२ लाख मीट्रिक टन तक पहुंच जायेगा । तीसरी आयोजना में २४०० किलोमीटर लम्बी लाइनें बनाने की व्यवस्था है ।

गेहूं का आयात

१२१६. श्री म० ला० त्रिवेदी :
श्रीमती सावित्री निगम :
श्री इन्द्रजीत लाल मल्होत्रा :
श्री इ० मधुसूदन राव :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वित्तीय वर्ष १९६३-६४ में अन्य देशों से कितना गेहूं आयात किया गया और किन किन देशों से ;

(ख) देश की आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति के लिए देश के भीतर की उपज और आयात किये गये खाद्यान्नों को मिला कर कितनी कमी पड़ी और उसे कैसे पूरा किया जा रहा है ; और

(ग) गेहूं का भाव कम कराने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अ० म० थामस) : (क) अप्रैल, १९६३ से फरवरी, १९६४ की अवधि में आयात की गयी मात्रा लगभग ३८.०२ लाख मीट्रिक टन थी ।

जिन देशों से गेहूं का आयात किया गया वे संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका, आस्ट्रेलिया और कनाडा हैं ।

(ख) खाद्यान्नों का आयात उपभोग की वर्तमान आवश्यकताएं पूरी करने और समीकरण भण्डार तैयार करने के लिए किया जाता है । सरकार का अनुमान है कि ये आयात इस उद्देश्य के लिए पर्याप्त होंगे ।

(ग) केन्द्रीय सरकारी डिपो से उचित मूल्यों पर आयातित गेहूं की बहुत अधिक मात्रा देश भर में बहुत बड़ी संख्या में उचित मूल्य की दूकानों के द्वारा वितरण करने के लिए, दी जा रही है । अधिक से अधिक मात्रा में गेहूं के पदार्थ बनाने के लिए बेलन आटा मिलों को भी गेहूं दी जा रही है । गेहूं से बने पदार्थों के मिलों से निकासी के भाव अधिनियमित रूप से निर्धारित किए जाते हैं ।

आजमगढ़ (उत्तर प्रदेश) में मनीआर्डर फार्मों की कमी

१२१७. **श्री विश्राम प्रसाद:** क्या डाक तथा तार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आजमगढ़ (उत्तर प्रदेश) के डाकघरों में मनीआर्डर फार्मों और 'एकनालेजमेंट ड्यू' फार्मों की निरन्तर कमी रहती है जिससे लोगों को बड़ी असुविधा होती है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और यह कठिनाई कब तक दूर होगी?

डाक और तार विभाग में उपमंत्री (श्री भगवती) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

Jagadhri Railway Station

1218. Shri D. D. Puri: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the serious handicap in the free flow of traffic at the existing railway crossing at Jagadhri Railway station on the Northern Railway;

(b) whether Government propose to construct an over-bridge at this crossing or at point nearabout; and

(c) if so, when the project is likely to be completed?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Inconvenience and delay to Road Traffic at Level crossings cannot altogether be avoided.

(b) and (c). The proposal for construction of a Road over bridge in place of the existing level crossing near Jagadhri Railway Station is already under consideration of the Railway in consultation with the Punjab State Government. As soon as the State Government finalise the scheme and allocate funds for their share of the cost the work will be taken up by the Railway.

नगरों के नामों की शब्दरचना

१२१९. **श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री :** क्या **डाक तथा तार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जिन भारतीय नगरों की शब्दरचना के कारण उनके उच्चारण में कठिनाई होती है वे डाक तथा तार विभाग की पुस्तकों में भी उसी रूप में अन्य भाषाओं में लिखे जाते हैं ;

(ख) क्या इसमें सुधार करने का कोई विचार है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कब तक ?

डाक और तार विभाग में उपमंत्री (श्री भगवती) : (क) डाकघर निर्देशिका, भाग iii में भारतीय डाकघरों के नाम उन जिलों के नामों के साथ जिनमें वे स्थित हैं, अंग्रेजी में प्रकाशित किये जाते हैं । इसी प्रकार तार निर्देशिका खंड ii में भारतीय तारघरों के नाम अंग्रेजी में प्रकाशित किये जाते हैं । तार निदशिका, खंड ii में उन तारघरों के नाम जिनमें अंग्रेजी के अतिरिक्त हिन्दी तार सेवा उपलब्ध है, अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी दोनों में ही प्रकाशित किये जाते हैं ।

डाकघरों और तारघरों के नाम उन स्थानों के नामों के आधार पर रखे जाते हैं जिनमें वे स्थित हैं । उनके नामों की स्पेलिंग का प्रादेशिक भाषाओं से रोमन तथा/या देवनागरी लिपि में लिप्यन्तरण भारतीय सर्वेक्षण विभाग द्वारा किया जाता है । फिर भी व्यापक रूप से आम प्रयोग में आने वाले मशहूर नामों पर उक्त नियम लागू नहीं होता ।

(ख) और (ग). प्रश्न ही नहीं उठते ।

Jagadhri Railway Station

1220. Shri D. D. Puri: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received to change the name of the existing railway station at Jagadhri to Yamunanagar Railway Station so as to make it synonymous with the name of the town; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes.

(b) The Railway Administrations are generally guided by the recommendations of State Governments in such matters. In this case, the Punjab Government have desired the *status quo* to continue.

Air Services to Kathmandu

1221. { **Shri Maheswar Naik:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Airlines Corporation has decided to discontinue its direct services to Kathmandu from Delhi and Calcutta and *vice versa*; and

(b) if so, on what consideration;

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The halt at Banaras on Delhi-Kathmandu direct service has been introduced in the Winter Route pattern only to provide daily connection (except on Saturdays) between Banaras and Kathmandu as well as to provide facilities to tourists to visit Banaras for sight-seeing purposes.

A halt at Patna has been introduced on Calcutta-Kathmandu direct service with a view to increase the carrying capacity.

Lilluah Railway Workshop

1222. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of employees of the Lilluah Railway Workshop have been arrested, suspended or otherwise proceeded against as a result of the lock-out imposed last December 1963; and

(b) whether the employees' claim for wages for the lock-out period has been rejected?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Since the lock-out in Lilluah Workshop was necessitated as a result of illegal stoppage of work resorted to by the workers, employees of Lilluah Workshops are not entitled to wages for the period of legal lock-out.

Financial Assistance for Shipping Development

1223. **Shri Himatsingka:** Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian National Steamship Owners Association has represented that the Indian ship-owners cannot avail of financial assistance from the Life Insurance Corporation and the Industrial Finance Corporation because of higher interest rates charged by them than those granted by the Shipping Development Committee;

(b) whether they have suggested any alternative; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). A representation has been received by Government from the Indian National Steamship Owners Association about financial assistance for the development of shipping, but it does not say that the ship owners cannot avail of financial assistance from the Life Insurance Corporation and the Industrial Finance Corporation because of higher rate of interest. The Association have suggested that financial institutions like the Industrial Finance Corporation of India, Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India and the Life Insurance Corporation should be asked—

(i) to consider applications for foreign exchange loans;

(ii) to agree to give suitable guarantees for foreign exchange loans arranged by the shipping companies abroad, at reasonable commission; and

(iii) to provide rupee loans against adequate security at reason-

able rate of interest and any interest payable above 3 per cent per annum should be borne by the Shipping Development Fund Committee.

Small Saving Scheme

1224. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to state the total amount of deposits in the different Post Offices of district Deoria (U.P.) under the scheme of small savings drive till 31st January, 1964?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): The total amount of deposits in various investments made in Deoria Head Post Office and Post Offices under this Head Post Office from 1st April, 1963 to 31st January, 1964 is Rs. 80,14,576.

Price Support for Spices

1225. Shri Kappen: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give price support for spices; and

(b) whether a spices market centre is proposed to be opened at Ernakulam?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) and (b). The Government have, as a price support measure, authorised the Directorate of Cardamom Development and Marketing, Bangalore, to purchase cardamoms, covered by the Export Price Control, from the certified growers and growers' co-operative societies, if and when the prices in the open market tend to fall well below its minimum export price.

As regards other spices, Government have no proposal for price support.

Golden Rock Tools and Plant Depot

1226. Shri Nambiar: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to establish an engineering workshop in Golden Rock (S. Railway) comprising of the R. C. C. Depot and the Tools and Plant Depot, in view of the growing needs of the Railway;

(b) whether the production targets of the R. C. C. Depot are being achieved; and

(c) the steps being taken to raise the Depot to the level of the requirements of the reinforced cement concrete articles for the Railway?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) There is no proposal to establish an additional R. C. C. Depot and Tools and Plant Depot at Golden Rock.

(b) and (c). The present requirements are being met satisfactorily by the existing Depot, and no expansion is considered necessary.

B. G. Line from Samastipur to Muzaffarpur

1227. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to construct a broad gauge railway line from Samastipur to Muzaffarpur (N.E.R.);

(b) if so, when it will be constructed; and

(c) the total cost of this construction?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

मालगाड़ी को लूटना

१२२८. श्री विश्वनाथ पाण्डेय : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि १५ जनवरी, १९६४ की रात को कुछ व्यक्तियों ने एम०

आर० मालगाड़ी को बीसलपुर और निरुनथुरा कटरा स्टेशनों के बीच बरेली (उत्तर प्रदेश) के निकट रोका और कुछ डिब्बों से माल लूट लिया;

(ख) यदि हां, तो लूटे गये माल का मूल्य क्या है; और

(ग) इस बारे में सरकार क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

रेलवे मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) (क) १५-१-१९६४ को इस तरह की कोई घटना नहीं हुई। लेकिन १२-१-१९६४ को उत्तर रेलवे के बिलपुर और मीरनपुर कटरा स्टेशनों के बीच (न कि बीसलपुर और निरुनथुरा कटरा के बीच) अपराधियों द्वारा चलती गाड़ी में एक माल डिब्बे से माल चुराये जाने की रिपोर्ट मिली।

(ख) ८५ रुपये।

(ग) गाड़ी में रेल सुरक्षा दल के कर्मचारियों का पहरा था। गार्ड के ललकारने पर अपराधी भाग गये।

Sinking of Dredger

1229. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that dredger "Pawan Kumar" sank in December, 1963 near Dwarka, off the Saurashtra Coast, while on its way to Okha;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total amount of loss?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Pontoon dredger, constructed of wood, sank as a result of water entering the hull during the unexpected onset of adverse weather conditions.

(c) Rs. 2 lakhs approximately.

All Party Forum on Panchayati Raj

1230. Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up All Party Forum on Panchayati Raj in the country; and

(b) if so, when it will be formed and what will be its functions?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) and (b). A proposal to create a consultative council on Panchayati Raj is under active consideration, but political parties as such will have no representation on it.

Industrial Workers of P. and T. Department

1231. Shri Shashi Ranjan: Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to state whether the recommendations of the Second Pay Commission in respect of industrial workers of the Posts and Telegraphs Department have been fully implemented?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): The recommendations of the Second Pay Commission, as accepted by the Government, have been implemented excepting—

(i) pension scheme, and

(ii) Machinery for Negotiation and settlement of disputes, which are being processed.

G.T. Road

1232. Shri P. R. Chakraverti: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government took decision in 1962 to expand the roads including G.T. Road in Jharia Coalfields, so as to facilitate the transport of heavy trucks carrying coal to the outlying regions;

(b) whether the development work has been undertaken jointly with the Bihar State Government;

(c) the progress so far achieved and the increased traffic that has found easier scope of road transportation; and

(d) the total outlay involved and the period by which the construction of road will be completed?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (d). A scheme has been drawn up for the improvement of certain roads including the G.T. Road to facilitate the movement of heavier vehicles for carrying coal to industrial areas towards Calcutta side from the Bengal-Bihar coal fields which include the Jharia Coalfields also. The Scheme is estimated to cost about Rs. 17.20 crores and includes works for the improvement of certain National Highways and State roads both in West Bengal and Bihar. Works of a total cost of about Rs. 85 lakhs have been sanctioned under this Scheme so far and the works are being arranged to be started. The Public Works Departments of the Governments of West Bengal and Bihar are executing the work in their respective States. The Scheme provides for the completion of all the works in about 3 years. The effect of the improved facility will be felt after sometime when the works are completed. The movement of coal by road from the Bengal-Bihar region is as under:

1961-62	3.0 million tonnes (approx.)
1962-63	3.06 million tonnes (approx.)
April 1963 to Sept. 1963	1.8 million tonnes (approx.)

It is expected that when all the works included in the aforesaid Scheme have been completed, more than 5 million tonnes of coal per year would be carried by road from the Bengal-Bihar coal fields.

Bridge over Howrah Station

1233. **Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:**
Dr. Saradish Roy:
Dr. Ranen Sen:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a portion of buckland bridge over the Howrah railway station collapsed recently; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). No part of the bridge proper has collapsed. A part of the cantilevered foot path on South side approach to the bridge, which is on masonry arches, however, collapsed due to anchorage inside the masonry getting uprooted. The cause is under investigation.

Outlay for Railway Development Plans

1234. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board proposes to seek an increase in the Third Plan outlay in order to off-set the rise in prices of steel and other raw materials; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The position was explained in the speech of the Minister of Railways introducing the Railway Budget for 1964-65 on 11th February, 1964 when he stated that the allocation of Rs. 1,581 crores "may have to be increased somewhat to take the impact of the increase in costs arising from the direct and indirect effects of the changes in taxation" (page 7 of the printed Railway Budget

Speech). Reference is also invited to the note in page 25 of the Explanatory Memorandum on the Railway Budget for 1964-65, which explains the balance amount of Rs. 302.74 crores in the following terms:

> "Represents only the balance, to add up to Rs. 1,581 crores and does not represent estimated requirements of the year, which will be greater, mainly because of the increase in prices during the Plan period (and especially after the taxation in the Budget of 1963-64 and revision in the prices of various controlled materials)."

In the mid-term appraisal of the Third Five Year Plan, the Planning Commission had indicated that on account of the higher costs of indigenous as well as imported materials, increases in civil engineering works etc., the costs of projects are expected to be generally higher than the plan estimates by amounts varying from 10 per cent to 20 per cent in most of the industrial enterprises in the public sector. The Railways' requirements of additional funds to absorb the effects of price and taxation increases are likely to be *very much lower* than these percentages.

Discussions in this regard have been held between the Ministry of Railways and the Planning Commission.

The price and taxation effects are, however, being worked out in greater detail, and a closer estimate of the additional funds required on this account will be available before the preparation of the Annual Plan for 1965-66.

Ticketless Travel

1235. Shri E. Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 1,500 persons were found travelling without ticket in a recent check up made in between Ghaziabad, Nizamuddin and Rohtak;

(b) whether it is also a fact that wife of a Member of Parliament, a high police official of Home Ministry and a marriage party were some of the defaulters;

(c) the total fine collected; and

(d) the action taken, if any, on the defaulters?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) Among the persons detected travelling without tickets were wife of a Member of Parliament, two children of a Police Official of the Home Ministry and a marriage party.

(c) Rs. 1,853 were realised on the spot, out of a total fine of Rs. 1,973 imposed by the Magistrate.

(d) The passengers detected travelling without tickets were charged railway fare plus the excess charges. Out of 134 passengers arrested, 114 were fined and the remaining 20 were sent to jail in default of payment of fine.

Trains between Hyderabad and Delhi

1236. Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been received for increasing through carriage facilities between Hyderabad and Delhi;

(b) whether in the proposed additional Express trains to Madras, a through carriage to Hyderabad will be run; and

(c) if not, the steps proposed to be taken to relieve present congestion in the single Third Class through carriage in G.T. Express?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) At present the undermentioned through service carriages run between

Hyderabad and New Delhi by the G.T. Expresses and connected trains:

(i) One First class coach and one Third class sleeper coach daily, each way.

(ii) One composite First and Third class coach once a week, each way.

It is proposed to increase the frequency of the weekly composite first and third class through coach to thrice a week each way with effect from 15th April, 1964.

Delhi Madras Jet Service

1237. Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the new 'Jet Service' between Delhi and Madras has so far been below full capacity;

(b) whether this service is proposed to touch Hyderabad also in the near future; and

(c) if not, why?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir. The Delhi/Madras Caravelle service has at present a low load factor, but this was not unanticipated.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) It is expected that the load factor will improve. In any case, the runway length at Hyderabad does not permit of Caravelle operations.

हिन्दूमलकोट और श्रीगंगानगर के बीच बड़ी लाइन बिछाना

१२३८. श्री प० ला० बारूपाल : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि उत्तर रेलवे के हिन्दूमलकोट और श्रीगंगानगर रेलवे स्टेशनों के बीच बड़ी लाइन बिछाने की प्रस्तावित परियोजना कब पूरी हो जायेगी ?

रेलवे मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सें० वें० रामस्वामी) : तीसरी पंचवर्षीय आयोजना में नयी लाइनों के निर्माण के लिए रेलों ने जो कार्यक्रम बनाया है, उसमें हिन्दूमलकोट और श्रीगंगानगर के बीच (१८ मील) बड़ी लाइन भी शामिल है । इस प्रायोजना की एक खास बात यह है कि इसके निर्माण के लिए उस क्षेत्र की जनता ने 'श्रमदान' का वचन दिया है और इसी आधार पर आयोजना आयोग ने इसे तीसरी आयोजना में शामिल करने का अनुमोदन किया था । चूंकि इस रेलवे लाइन पर होने वाला खर्च अधिक नहीं था और इससे 'श्रमदान' के वचन की परीक्षा भी हो जाती, इसलिए तीसरी आयोजना में इस लाइन को शामिल करने के पहले रेलवे बोर्ड ने आयोजना आयोग को आश्वासन दिया था कि यदि 'श्रमदान' का वचन पूरा नहीं किया गया तो लाइन का निर्माण-कार्य आगे नहीं बढ़ाया जायेगा । बोर्ड ने यह भी कहा था कि इस लाइन पर काम कई चरणों में किया जायेगा ताकि प्रस्तावित 'श्रमदान' का अधिक से अधिक लाभ उठाया जा सके ।

२. इसलिए जब तक राजस्थान सरकार करार के अनुसार 'श्रमदान' द्वारा मिट्टी डालने का काम पूरा नहीं कर लेती, तब तक लाइन के लिए जमीन के अधिग्रहण के अलावा इस पर कोई और खर्च नहीं किया जायेगा । जमीन का कब्जा देने और 'श्रमदान' शुरू कराने के लिए श्रीगंगानगर के कलक्टर और राज्य सरकार से कहा गया है और उन्हें इस सम्बन्ध में याद दिलाई जा रही है ।

३. यदि राज्य सरकार 'श्रमदान' द्वारा मिट्टी डालने का काम अगले कुछ महीनों में शुरू कराने की व्यवस्था करे और यह काम १९६६ के जून-जुलाई तक पूरा हो जाय और साथ ही यदि राज्य सरकार

'श्रमदान' के आधार पर प्लेटफार्म, मकान और स्टेशनों की इमारतें बनाने के लिए कुशल और अकुशल कारीगरों की व्यवस्था करे ताकि इनका निर्माण ३१-३-१९६७ से पहले पूरा हो जाय, तो यह लाइन ३१-३-१९६८ तक पूरी हो सकती है ।

Pig Husbandry

1239. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government propose to start a Central Institute for Training in Pig Husbandry like that of the U.P. Government on an All-India basis; and

(b) whether Centre has approved of the U.P. scheme of training for swine husbandry?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). A scheme is being jointly financed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Uttar Pradesh Government at the Central Dairy Farm, Aligarh under which training courses of nine months' duration are conducted with a view to giving thorough training in all aspects of pig keeping, breeding and methods of processing and marketing piggery products. The candidates for each course are selected out of those sponsored by the Central and State Governments and Union Territories. This Scheme has been sanctioned at present for four years with effect from 3rd December 1960.

Besides the above, the Department of Agriculture under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme has recently approved three months' training course in Swine Husbandry at Regional Pig Breeding Stations-*cum*-Bacon Factories at Aligarh (Uttar Pradesh) and Haringhata (West Bengal) for departmental and private candidates of different States. The object of this training is to train a prospective pig farmer/worker in improved methods of Pig Husbandry with a view to improving the breed and quality of country pigs. The private candidates while attending the course will be eligible for a stipend of Rs. 40/- per month.

Commemoration Stamps

1240. Shri G. S. Musafir: Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Panjabi Sahitya Sabha, New Delhi, approached the P. and T. Departt. in September, 1961 for the issue of commemoration stamps in the memory of Bhai Sahib Bhai Vir Singh who is considered the father of modern Panjabi literature;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the request of the Sabha was supported by the other organisations also;

(c) the number of organizations whose request for the issue of other commemoration stamps, made after September, 1961 have been acceded to; and

(d) when the commemoration stamps in memory of Bhai Sahib Bhai Vir Singh are expected to be issued?

The Deputy Minister in the Department and Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) and (b). Yes Sir.

(c) Two, namely, the Parsee Association of Bombay and the Utkal Bhandaba Samiti of Orissa.

(d) The proposal has been noted for further consideration.

चिड़ियाघर के शेर

१२४१. श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जब से संकट-कालीन स्थिति की घोषणा की गई है तब से दिल्ली के चिड़ियाघर में शेरों को बकरे के मांस

की जगह भैंसे का मांस दिया जा रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इससे सरकार को कितनी बचत हुई ?

खाद्य और कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० राम सुभग सिंह) : (क) बड़े मांस भक्षी प्राणियों जैसे सिंह, बाघ, तेंदुआ, अमरीकी शेर इत्यादि के लिये भेड़-बकरी के मांस की जगह भैंसे का मांस देने की एक संशोधित आहार-सूची नवम्बर, १९६२ से चालू की गई थी। यह आपातकालीन स्थिति की घोषणा के कारण नहीं, अपितु अन्य चिड़ियाघरों में मौजूदा कार्य प्रणाली को बनाये रखने के कारण किया गया था।

(ख) नवम्बर, १९६२ से भेड़-बकरी के मांस की जगह भैंसे का मांस देने के कारण लगभग २५०० रुपये प्रति मास की बचत हुई है ।

Satur Railway Station

1242. { **Shri P. K. Ghosh:**
Shri Y. N. Singha:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether several complaints have been received in regard to the working of the Satur Railway Station in the Southern Railway; and

(b) if so, whether a number of employees have been suspended for various acts of corruption; and

(c) the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Three complaints have been received against staff of Satur Railway Station.

(b) No employee was suspended for any act of corruption.

(c) One of the complaints which was against the Assistant Station Master was enquired into and found to be baseless. The remaining two complaints which were received recently are against the Assistant Goods Clerk and are under enquiry.

Sahdol Railway Extension Yard

1243. Shrimati Maimoona Sultan: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that six workers were buried alive and one seriously injured while working at the Sahdol railway extension yard on the 18th February, 1964;

(b) whether an inquiry has been instituted into the circumstances of the accident; and

(c) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) to (c). On 18th February at 13/30 hours, while the cutting in Sahdol yard was being widened in connection with doubling of the section between Anuppur and Katni on South Eastern Railway, eight of contractor's labourers who were working by the side of the cutting were buried under the debris due to the sudden slip of a high cutting face above them. The debris was removed and the eight labourers trapped under the debris were taken out. The District Engineer, South Eastern Railway, Umaria, who was at the station, immediately informed the police through the contractor's agent. The police took these eight labourers to the Civil Hospital, six of them were already dead and two were injured. The Labour Commissioner, Jabalpur and the Collector were informed of the accident. Investigation into the occurrence has already been undertaken by the local Police authorities. Compensation is being arranged by the contractor to the labourers involved in the accident.

डीजल रेलवे इंजन

१२४४. **श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा** : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वाराणसी की वर्कशाप में बनाये गये डीजल रेलवे इंजन का परीक्षण किया गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या परिणाम निकला ?

रेलवे मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) वाराणसी कारखाने में बनाया गया एक डीजल रेल इंजन जनवरी, १९६४ से चलाया जा रहा है ।

(ख) अभी तक यह रेल इंजन सन्तोषजनक ढंग से काम दे रहा है ।

Railway Guards

1245. Shri Rishang Keishing: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) how the scales of pay of different categories of the Railway guards compare with that of different categories of the Railway conductors;

(b) how the responsibilities and functions of the two compare;

(c) whether the Railway guards have made representations to keep their scale of pay and other emoluments at par with that of the Railway conductors; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government to this effect?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a):

Guards			Conductors	
	Authorized scale of pay	Mileage allowance per 100 Kms.		Authorized scale of pay
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
Grade 'A'	205—7—240—8—280	1·80	Grade I	250—10—290—15—380
Grade 'B'	150—5—175—6—205—EB—7—240.	1·70	Grade II	205—7—240—8—280
Grade 'C'	130—4—170—EB—5—200—EB—5—225	1·65	Grade III	150—5—175—6—205—EB—7—240.

(b) *Guards*: Responsible for working of the trains both from Transportation point of view as also loading and unloading of packages. To see that the train is perfect in running condition and is provided with vacuum brake in perfect order. To keep a sharp look out while on the run and to take care of the passengers and their comforts where no conductors are provided for the train.

Conductors: To accommodate passengers either in accommodation reserved for them or otherwise available for them at different stations. To look after their comforts/amenities and arrangement of meals, etc. To maintain a tally of the accommodation available at various stations and to intimate the position to the next halting station.

(c) Yes.

(d) As the authorised scales of pay allotted to Guards are those which have been specifically recommended by the Jagannadha Das Pay Commission after taking all the factors into consideration, it has been decided not

to make any change in the scales already allotted. However, the representations are under active consideration of Government.

Co-operative Marketing Societies

1246. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of **Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have requested the State Governments to consider taking steps to exempt co-operative marketing societies from Sales and Purchase Tax in respect of the produce of members handled by them; and

(b) if so, whether any State Government have agreed to do so?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Governments were addressed only in February, 1964. No State Government has yet communicated its decision.

Electoral Procedures of Gram Panchayats

1247. Shri Warior:
Shri Sarjoo Pandey:
Shri Nambiar:

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Committee has been appointed to go into the electoral procedures of the Gram Panchayats; and

(b) if so, the composition of the Committee and its terms of reference?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir. The Committee would study the electoral procedures not only of the Gram Panchayats but also of the Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads.

(b) The composition of the Committee is as under:—

Chairman: Shri K. Santhanam, Member, Rajya Sabha

Members:

1. Shri P. Govinda Menon, M.P.
2. Shri T. H. Sonavane, M.P.
3. Shri Rajeshwar Patel, M.P.
4. Shri V. B. Raju.
5. Miss Maya Banerji, MLA, West Bengal.
6. Dr. J. N. Khosla, Director, I.I.P.A., New Delhi.

The terms of reference of the Committee are:—

To study the different methods of elections to the Panchayati Raj bodies being followed in the States with special reference to the methods and procedures which have been conducive to the vigorous and healthy growth of Panchayati Raj and to make recommendations on the following:—

(i) the strength and composition of and the method of elections to the Panchayati Raj bodies at the village, block and district levels, as can ensure the democratic and efficient functioning of these bodies and the evolution of a harmonious and coordinated pattern of representative institutions;

(ii) the need for cooption, the categories to which cooption should be applied, the manner of its application and other related matters;

(iii) the measures for ensuring adequate and effective representation to the weaker sections on these bodies;

(iv) the method of election of office-bearers of these bodies;

(v) the association of the Members of Parliament and State

Legislatures with the Panchayati Raj bodies;

(vi) the terms of membership and the periodicity of elections to Panchayati Raj bodies;

(vii) how far unanimity in elections is practicable consistent with the growth of democratic processes;

(viii) whether and to what extent political parties should participate in Panchayati Raj elections; and

(ix) the measures required to ensure free and fair elections to the Panchayati Raj bodies and the desirability of setting up a State level Commission for the purpose.

Price Fluctuation Fund

1248. **Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:**
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 575 on the 26th November, 1963 and state:

(a) whether the details of manner of creation and operation of a special price fluctuation fund have since been considered by the National Cooperative Development Corporation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are broadly as under:—

(i) The marketing societies selected to make outright purchases should allocate 10 per cent of their annual net profits towards the special price fluctuation fund.

(ii) Government should contribute each year to the price fluctuation fund at the rate of 2 per cent of the total value of produce purchased from the grower-members.

(iii) All losses sustained by a society on account of outright purchases of agricultural produce under the scheme should be met from the special price fluctuation fund; but if losses exceed the amount available in the fund, the excess should be made good from the owned funds of the society.

The scheme is under consideration of the Government.

T.U. 104 Aircraft

1249. **Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:**
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:

Will the Minister of **Transport** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 982 on the 3rd December, 1963 and state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the report submitted by the Committee of enquiry on T.U.—104 Aircraft which caught fire at Santa Cruz Airport on the evening of 16th August, 1963; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report has been accepted by the Government of India and copies thereof placed in the Parliament Library.

P. and T. Staff Quarters in Kerala

1250. Shri P. Kunhan: Will the Minister of **Posts and Telegraphs** be pleased to state:

(a) the total allotment made for the construction of quarters for P. and T. staff in Kerala during the Third Plan period;

(b) the amount spent out of this so far; and

(c) the number of quarters constructed in the first three years of the Third Plan?

The Deputy Minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs (Shri Bhagavati): (a) No specific allocation of funds has been made for Circles.

(b) 3.29 lakhs have been spent.

(c) Six units have been constructed, and in addition to this 13 quarters are under construction.

Supply of Sugar to Kerala

1251. **Shri P. Kunhan**: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual requirement of sugar in Kerala;

(b) whether it is a fact that sugar is in short supply in the State at present;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to ensure adequate supply of sugar to the State; and

(d) the prevailing price of sugar in Kerala and how it compares with sugar prices in other parts of the country?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) The annual requirement is estimated to be around 72,000 tonnes.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The prevailing controlled retail price of sugar in Kerala is between Rs. 1.22 to Rs. 1.31 per kilogram. The controlled retail prices of sugar in other parts of the country are also within this range.

Supply of Rice to Kerala

1252. **Shri P. Kunhan**: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of rice asked for by the Kerala Government for the first quarter of the current year;

(b) how much of this has been sanctioned; and

(c) how much of this has been actually supplied?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) to (c). As indicated in reply to Unstarred Question No. 322 on February 18, 1964, rice is issued to fair price shops in Kerala direct from the Central depots located in the State. The question of the Kerala Government's asking for a specific quantity of rice for any specific period or the question of sanctioning or supplying such quantities to them does not,, therefore, arise.

Minor Irrigation Schemes in Kerala

1253. **Shri P. Kunhan**: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance has been given to Kerala Government for the implementation of minor irrigation schemes in the State in the first three years of the Third Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of assistance given; and

(c) the progress so far made in Kerala in implementing the minor irrigation scheme?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). Under the revised procedure for rendering financial assistance to State Governments, introduced from the year 1958-59, Central assistance admissible to various State Governments is sanctioned in bulk for

schemes under the head "Agricultural Production" which includes Minor Irrigation and Land Development. As such, it is not possible to indicate the amount of Central assistance given to the Government of Kerala for their Minor Irrigation Schemes in the first three years of the Third Five Year Plan. Information with regard to grant and loan sanctioned to the Government of Kerala during these years for their Agricultural Production Schemes, including Minor Irrigation and Land Development, is given below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Loan	Grant
1961-62	85.68	49.98
1962-63	76.35	49.27
1963-64	88.30	54.86

(c) The tentative figure available for the first two years of the Third Plan is 61,280 acres.

Restriction on Movement of Atta

1254. **Shri Yashpal Singh:**
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is no ban on the export of Atta from Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether in view of the rise in prices, Government propose to enforce a ban on the movement of Atta?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) and (c). The matter is under consideration.

Quota of Sugar for Rajasthan

1255. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Rajasthan has asked for revision of its quota of sugar;

(b) whether Rajasthan quota is less than half that of Punjab and one-third of Gujarat even though population is the same; and

(c) if so, the action being taken to redress the grievance?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes Sir, but quotas were fixed on the basis of actual consumption of sugar by various States which is not arithmetically related to population. However the matter is being reviewed.

Fertilizer Allotted to Manipur

1256. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of fertilizer allotted to the Manipur State for 1963-64;

(b) whether the entire allotment has been lifted;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken to expedite its supply?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) The following kinds of fertilisers were allotted in favour of Manipur Administration for 1963-64:

Sulphate of Ammonia	170 Tonnes
Urea	48 "
Cal. Amm. Nitrate	72 "
Ammonium Phosphate	50 "

(b) to (d). The entire allotment except 1·5 M. Tonnes of Calcium Ammonium Nitrate has been lifted by the Administration.

बिहार को चावल का दिया जाना

१२५७. { **श्री सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद :**
श्री प्र० रं० चक्रवर्ती :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बिहार सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से चावल मांगा है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितना ; और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने क्या निर्णय किया है ?

खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री अ० म० थामस) : (क) से (ग). बिहार सरकार से चावल की सप्लाई के लिये, समय समय पर, मांग आती रही है और बिहार और अन्य कमी वाले राज्यों की आवश्यकताओं तथा केन्द्र के पास चावल की कुल उपलब्धि को ध्यान में रखते हुए उसे चावल का बंटन किया जाता रहा है ।

Lower Gazetted Service Posts in Railways

1258. { **Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:**
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of posts filled up in the Lower Gazetted Service grade during 1963-64 so far on the South-Eastern Railway;

(b) the number of posts out of them reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees; and

(c) the number of reserved posts filled up so far during the same period?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) 39.

(b) Does not arise as there is no reservation.

(c) Does not arise.

12:08 hrs.

RE: CALLING ATTENTION ON A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Mr. Speaker: I have received a calling attention notice by Shri Hem Barua and others regarding armed Pakistani raids on March 15th on the border village of Bhulwal Mulo in Akhnoor tehsil near Jammu. I had admitted it and the Minister wants time to answer it. Probably he will be in a position tomorrow to answer it.

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Defence (Shri D. R. Chavan): We are collecting the information.

Mr. Speaker: All right. It will be put down tomorrow.

12·08½ hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Swaran Singh): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Annual Report of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for the year 1962-63. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2535/64].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER MERCHANT SHIPPING ACT

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport (Shri Raj Bahadur): I beg to re-lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958:—

(a) Notification No. G.S.R. 1393 dated the 24th August, 1963 containing Corrigenda to the Merchant Shipping (Shipping Office Forms) Rules, 1963 published in Notification

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

No. G.S.R. 455 dated the 16th March, 1963. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-1912/63].

(b) Notification No. G.S.R. 1511 dated the 21st September, 1963 containing Corrigendum to the National Shipping Board Rules, 1960 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1242 dated the 22nd October, 1960. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-1913/63].

(c) The Merchant Shipping (Examination of Engineers in the Merchant Navy) Amendment Rules, 1963 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1805 dated the 23rd November, 1963. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-1914/63].

(ii) to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers:—

(a) The Merchant Shipping (Distress Messages and Navigational Warnings) Rules, 1964 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 157 dated the 1st February, 1964, under sub-section (3) of section 458 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2536/64].

(b) Report and the Certified Accounts of the Shipping Development Fund Committee for the period ended the 31st March, 1962 together with the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (6) of section 16 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2537/64].

ANNUAL REPORT OF INDIAN CENTRAL TOBACCO COMMITTEE

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Annual Report of the Indian Central Tobacco Committee for the year 1962-63. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2538/64].

ORDERS UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): I beg to lay on the Table—

(i) a copy each of the following Orders under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.—

(a) The Delhi Roller Mill Atta Order, 1964 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 415 dated the 3rd March, 1964.

(b) The Andhra Pradesh Paddy (Movement Control) Order, 1964, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 417 dated the 5th March, 1964.

(c) The Madras Rice Procurement (Levy) Amendment Order 1964 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 418 dated the 5th March, 1964.

[*Placed in Library. See No.* LT-2539/64].

(ii) a copy each of the following papers:—

(a) Audit Report on the Accounts of the Animal Welfare Board, Madras, for the year 1962-63. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2540/64].

(b) Annual Report of the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee for the year 1962-63. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2541/64].

12.12 hrs.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE SITTING OF THE HOUSE

Mr. Speaker: The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in their Eighth Report

have recommended that leave of absence be granted to the following Members for the periods indicated in the Report:

(1) Shri G. Narayan Reddy
(2) Shri A. Jayaraman
(3) Shri Maheswar Naik
(4) Shri Biren Dutta
(5) Shri Yashwantrao Martandrao Mukne
(6) Shri Dasaratha Deb
(7) Shri R. Kanakasabai
(8) Shri U. Srinivasa Malliah
(9) Shri Biddika Satyanarayana
(10) Shri Ram Singh
(11) Shri D. D. Puri
(12) Shri T. Abdul Wahid

I take it that the House agrees with the recommendations of the Committee.

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: The Members will be informed accordingly.

12.13 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—*Contd.*

MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE—*contd.*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further discussion and voting on the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of International Trade. Out of the five hours allotted, three hours have already been taken and two hours remain.

Shri Kapur Singh (Ludhiana): When is the Minister likely to reply?

Mr. Speaker: How long is he likely to take?

The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah): About half an hour to forty minutes.

Mr. Speaker: We have to conclude by 2.15 P.M. So, I will call him at about 1.30 P.M. Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo may continue his speech.

Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo (Keonjhar): Mr. Speaker, I was speaking about the performance of STC yesterday. I said that I was a bit harsh to it last time when I spoke on the Plan Appraisal, and I gave my reasons for it. To a certain extent, those reasons still hold good. Yet, the devil has to be given its due.

Shri Brij Raj Singh-Kotah (Jhalawar): Who is the devil?

Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo: STC is the devil. That is what follows.

The one-man delegation that went to Japan to negotiate a deal for 7 million tons of iron ore, negotiated it at a very high price which was indeed a very creditable performance. In that respect, their performance is certainly praiseworthy. But their performance in maganese is rather, I should say, hopeless. We have lost the maganese business because of the Herculean inefficiency of STC in this respect.

I will show why it is, when the private trade which is doing similar business can negotiate a better deal, the STC fails in this matter. I know it from my little experience in this regard and I will mention two or three names of those who particularly deal in this, that is, Misrilal Jain, the house of Rungtas and some others like them. When they can process manganese ore which is unsaleable even by the STC, I can not understand why the S.T.C. which is manned by very highly paid officers for dealing with this particular business is not able to procure these deals or sell off their goods and has to seek the help of particular business houses. Of course, I will come to it a little later when I deal with another aspect of the STC to which I will try to draw the attention the hon. Minister.

[Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo]

I am not at all against an efficient STC, if it performs its job commensurate with the socialistic policy that was enunciated at Bhubaneswar recently, namely, socialistic democracy.

An Hon. Member: Democratic socialism.

Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo: Whatever it be, it is the same thing.

I will request the hon. Minister to see in this regard whether the time has not come for them to appoint a high-powered committee, even if it is of his own Ministry I do not mind, to go into this particular aspect.

As to the business methods of the STC, they have succeeded in certain matters. The hon. Member from Pudukkottai mentioned certain aspects of it and asked why it should not be given credit for it. I also give them credit for that; but probably he forgot to mention that in certain respects, specially underinvoicing and overinvoicing which he mentioned, it is also a part of the STC's business. If we go deeper into the matter, we will find that probably the deals which the Government of India is now enquiring into relate to them—I do not want to name them—I want to know if they were processed by the STC. I would like the hon. Minister to enlighten us on the matter whether it is so or not so as to allay our apprehensions in the matter.

I would also suggest for the consideration of the hon. Minister and his Ministry as to whether the STC should not in time to come take up international trade in petroleum and gasoline products when all our refineries which are planned for go into production. That will show truly whether the STC is efficient in spreading our international trade. In this particular business there is keen competition in international trade and it will show whether the STC is as efficient as it is made out to be.

Then I will come to the training of officers. Why does the STC fail in its efforts where other business houses succeed? I hope, I am not being misunderstood when I mention a certain business community because it is not in a bad sense that I am meaning it. Where the Marwari businessmen succeed, I would like the hon. Minister to say why our STC fails. According to me it is probably because our officers are not trained or attuned to carry on the business on those lines. Why, as I said before, do Misrilal Jain or the Rungtas succeed when we fail? It is because they have this business ingrained in their blood. Similarly, if we are to succeed, we must train our business officers so that they are attuned to compete with the private sector and do what the private sector does so efficiently. Probably, I will not be far wrong if I mention that the hon. Minister who has stepped up our international trade considerably would not have been so successful had he not studied the background of the private industry or the private business before he came into office. If he had not that background, I am sure he would not have made this spectacular progress that the international trade has made since he has come to this Ministry.

Lastly, I would like to mention one or two things and I will particularly mention to what the hon. Member from Goa mentioned yesterday. My hon. friend, Shri Alvares, said that our international trade policy should not be biased or so phased on our foreign policy. Soon after that, he mentioned that France is trying to keep out Britain from the Common Market and he also gave an example as to how in an under-developed economy we should not be biased or should not be committed to any trade centres like the Commonwealth countries. That is what he meant by it. But when I put the two things together, I cannot understand it. I will be very happy if the hon. Member corrects me when I ask whether we being a non-aligned

country are not trying o go without attachement. Of course, due to certain historical facts, we are attached to the Commonwealth counries. But we are trying to get what is best for our country in the sphere of international trade so that we are not entirely dependent on them and we certainly wish the hon. Minister godspeed when he is going to represent our country in the Commonwealth Ministers Conference and thereafter at the UN. I am happy that a few Members of this House are also going with him and that will certainly strengthen his hands and the Members of Parliament will certainly act as a watch-dog because I know for certain that one of the Members of the Delegation is one who represents Hon. Shri Alvares's party.

Shri Alvares (Panjim): I am not a Member of the Delegation.

Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo: You are not; but Mr. Nath Pai is going.

Shri Alvares: He is also not going. He has declined to go.

Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo: If he is not going, that is a different matter. But what I heard was that he was also going and it would have been good for our country if he had gone. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; no pleadings for any Member.

Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo: I am sorry. I had to defend the interests of my Party. Having said all that . . . (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo: Having said all that about the international trade, I would say that surely everyone in the House will agree that the performance of this Ministry has been commendable and we will certainly wish them better performance in years to come.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: (Jalore): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the real strength and independence of our economy very much depends upon this international trade, our balance of payments and promotion of our exports. We cannot perpetually depend upon assistance from the other countries by way of loans and grants. Therefore, it was only natural when the hon. Minister was complimented from all sections of the House, whether it was the Communist quarter or whether it was the Swantantra Party or whether it was Congress or the Independents. The hon. Minister deserves high compliments for his performance for breaking through the stagnation which was there for over ten years, for creating a fresh climate for export promotion and for arousing national interests in exports from this country. The facts which are before us all are an eloquent testimony to his performance. But as he himself has realised, we have just made a beginning, and I think that we have to cover a considerable ground on this matter. Our trade balances are such that the gaps have still got to be bridged, and our export promotion has got to be reinforced at all points. It is true that our present performance in export promotion covers almost all the items and almost all the countries, and it has indicated a rise in exports.

But, in this connection, I would like to point out that there are certain trends of which care has got to be taken. The first is our trade balances with America. There is a very wide gap in the trade between our two countries, and I think that that should be taken care of. We must export more and we must try to balance our trade with the USA just as we are doing almost with the East European and communist countries.

The emergence of China in the field of trade and commerce is another very important factor to which no reference has been made either by the hon. Minister in his speech or by any other Member. UK which is a nation of astute businessmen is concerned more with trade than with anything else and therefore, their support and their attitude are always guided and

[Shri Harish Chandra Mathur]

tempered by the potential of trade which they have got to exploit. That is also to be taken note of. Moreover, the fact that China has come into the field has also to be taken note of. Further, China used to get most of its supplies from the East European countries, but now those sources are being dried up, and the imports into China from the USSR and other countries have gone down very considerably. That also has helped in one way our trade with the East European countries. So, let us not be carried away by the facts which show that so much has been done. It is true that we have taken the best advantage of the situation and we have taken a rational view and we have done all that was necessary in that connection. But we cannot ignore the changing trends in international trade and we must be fully conscious and aware of how to make the best use of them in the near future.

The hon. Minister has also told us that there has been a great rationalisation in our import policy. When he was referring to rationalisation, he said that 67 per cent of our imports had been of raw materials and components and 17 per cent of capital goods. But this rationalisation does not take into consideration another factor which is far more important from the viewpoint of most of the Members, and just as the compliment to the hon. Minister was a common ground amongst all the Members, likewise, this factor was also a common ground among all the Members who had participated, and that was about his attitude towards the small-scale industries.

They have spent so much, 67 per cent plus 17 per cent on imports for large-scale industries. But not only do the small-scale industries not get their fair share, but they have been very much neglected. The hon. Minister has only said in his speech that he will try to restore the cuts which had been imposed in respect of small-scale industries. Why does he want to be harsh? He is going to increase the amount in the field of large-scale industries, both in the matter of raw materials and components and also in the matter of capital goods, while the small-scale industries have been left in the lurch and have been very shabbily treated.

The House will be surprised to know that the Small-Scale Industries Corporation which is the only and the exclusive organisation for importing machinery for small-scale industries has frozen all activities so far as the import of machinery for small-scale industries is concerned. They have received no fresh application since November, 1962. Even if the small-scale industries were not to be given a preferential treatment, and even if they were to be treated on a par with the large-scale industries, I do not know how such a position can be defended by Government.

So in his rationalisation, I do hope that he will take care of this.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): I am sorry to interrupt. My hon. friend is making an interesting speech, but he does not have quorum in the House.

Shri Ranga (Chittoor): There should be a lunch hour. There is no other solution.

An Hon. Member: Between 1.30 and 2.30.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is only 12.30. This is unconstitutional.

Mr. Speaker: The bell is being rung—Now there is quorum. The hon. Member may continue.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I have only to reemphasise that the hon. Minister must rationalise in the true sense of the word and not forget the small man.

Then it has also to be borne in mind that international trade and promotion of export cannot be done in a vacuum. There are so many factors which have to come into play. A very much wider field has got to be covered. However dynamic the Minister may be, however astute he may be, however unmistakable his grasp of the subject may be, he has to depend on so many factors. I am happy to be able to tell you that during my recent visit to Europe, I was told both by our Embassy people as well as by others that the Minister had left an unmistakable impression on the minds of people there. He is a man who through his persuasive approach as also a thorough grasp of the subject had created an impression all over. His pragmatic, practical approach to problems, with an understanding of the situation showed how business between our country and those countries could be augmented. And we see the result of it. Even the Communist Member who spoke had not—if his speech is analysed—anything to say for which the Minister can be held responsible. So far as his performance is concerned, there was always compliment and appreciation. Criticism was only against certain other aspects with which I will deal a little later.

But unfortunately, we have here at home let down the Ministry very badly. It is not that the Minister with his dynamism or with his grasp of the subject only can deal with this matter. He has got to have a much greater field, a much wider scope and a much wider field, because export is directly linked with production, of industrial goods as well as primary goods. Export has to be linked not only with production but production on a competitive basis. Otherwise, there can be no export. Therefore, he has got to be given a position which will enable him to give a much better performance. Unfortunately, instead of giving him a better position, something has been done to clip his wings. It is a national disservice, as a matter of fact, in our present context to have given him this treatment. We on this side of the House never plead for an individual Minister. I do not care whether Shri Manubhai Shah remains Minister of International Trade. Let there be other Minister. But he must be fully equipped to discharge his responsibilities in a dynamic manner. Not only should he be a Minister in his own right covering that wide field but he must have a big say—he must not be a small brother—in the committee for economic development and export. There must be a Cabinet Committee in which he should have a really big voice.

Take, for instance, export promotion. We expect to export 25—30 million tons of iron ore. Will the Minister be able to do it? There is a market. He can create a market. He can create an atmosphere. He can conclude agreements. But the whole question again centres round this point whether we would have the mining facilities, whether it would be possible to have that much of iron ore ready for export, whether it would be possible to have other facilities for exporting the iron ore. These are various factors which must be looked into very thoroughly if we are to break through this stagnation, if we are to have our own way in this particular matter.

Another question was raised—about licences and permits. It is attacked both by the communists—they have a different solution to offer—and the Swatantra Party. The only solution the communists have got is that everything should be nationalised. In the context of a mixed economy, I do not know whether we can nationalise everythig or not. The Swatantra Party's solution is very comic. They say that licences and permits should be given by some judicial body. But the abuse arising from these licences and permits is not because they are issued by A, B or C but because of scarcity. Therefore, we have got to understand the real position and to

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find a solution. I do not wish to be carried away by slogans or political stunts.

Shri Ranga: On a point of explanation. It is neither a slogan nor a stunt. We did not suggest it should be a judicial body. It should be a quasi-judicial body but politically independent and impartial enjoying the same independent status as the Supreme Court.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: It is an absolutely impractical suggestion.

Shri Ranga: He can say so.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Even if we accept it for argument's sake, what about the exploitation of the consumer? The Communist Member who spoke gave facts and figures to show how the business community was exploiting the consumer by raising the prices of imported articles. Whether the licence is granted by a judicial authority or a quasi-judicial body, what is in their programme to put a stop to the exploitation which is going on? Their only point is that the Congress Party is making money, that the Ministry is making money, out of the issue of licences and permits. Even accepting it for argument's sake, the main question before the House, is, how is the consumer going to be dealt with, how is he going to be able to get articles at a fair price, a proper price.

Shri Ranga: By the same means as have to be utilised to prevent State monopolies like the STC also from making huge profits.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I am sorry to say there is absolutely nothing in that suggestion.

There are two or three things. There is scarcity with its attendant problems. There is big business operating. There is loss of exchange in respect of which an accusing finger is pointed at big business for under-invoicing of exports and over invoicing of imports. There is exploitation of the consumer. It is an important point. There is breeding of corruption. These are the problems, and we have to see how to get rid of them.

At least in respect of certain metallurgical items—copper and tin were referred to by some friends—I do not see why, in the first instance, we do not take two steps. Firstly, some of these items over which there is such great profit should definitely be imported through the STC and distributed more particularly to the manufacturers. Secondly, I know that it is the trade, the established importers; who are the culprits and the guilty people in this game, but if Government does not want to dislodge them completely abruptly even though they are guilty, Government must have a definite and clear-cut policy to switch on from the established importers to the consumers in the industries, whether it is large-scale industry or the small-scale industry. And so far as the small-scale industries are concerned, I do wish that he gives particular attention to meet their full requirements not only a *pro rata* basis with the large-scale industries, but by giving preferential treatment which has been announced by the Prime Ministers and others in this House. All their requirements should be imported by the STC and supplied to the various corporations functioning in the different States.

Another very important point made by the Communist Member was that while in the primary products the price has risen only by 12 per cent, in the manufactured products it has risen by 60 per cent, meaning thereby that it is the manufacturer who is out to exploit. The problem can be divided into two parts. This is so not only in this country. We are getting these manufactured items or machinery from outside, and I do not think the

hon. Minister has very much control over the economies of othe countries.

Shri Manubhai Shah: The hon. Member in question was referring to trends in the international trade pattern. He was mentioning that during the last ten or fifteen years of world trade expansion, the manufactured products which we import from industrialised countries have gone up in price by 72 per cent, while the primary products exported by the less-developed countries rose in price only 12 per cent, so that the terms of trade were working against us.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: That is exactly what I say. That is why I said it was a matter over which the hon. Minister has not very much control, because the products are coming from outside countries.

I am highlighting this point for two reasons. Prices go up not only because of raw materials. Cost of production goes up in the manufacturing side also because of so many other factors. Labour, land, electricity, water rates etc. come in, and we must, therefore, not be carried away by that slogan. I do wish the hon. Minister shows steady initiative in finding out to what extent the rise is justified, because this is a point which he must very forcefully bring out in the impending Council to which he is going. He must take all the relevant facts into consideration, and see that our case is fully represented.

The last point is about the UN meet. I congratulate our country on taking a pioneering lead in this matter. The Communist friend was saying that we should not represent only India, but all the developing countries. I think that is exactly the role which has been played by this country and the hon. Minister during his tours abroad and in bringing about this conference, which, as was rightly pointed cut, is resented by the developed countries. But it is a very historic event of great importance, and therefore, I think we must be fully equipped and take the fullest advantage of this by putting everything into a correct perspective so far as the developing countries are concerned. We have got to speak for the developing countries, we have got to pull down the tariff walls, and the most important thing is that we must create a climate in the world in favour of the developing countries, for we are being told that a lot of assistance is being doled ut to to these developing countries. But in real terms, if you analyse it, this assistance means that we are importing from them things at a much higher cost than what could be considered reasonable. So, all these points have definitely got to be highlighted at the UN meet, and I do hope that India which played such a pioneering role will continue to play the same role and achieve success for all the developing countries.

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): It is not correct to say that it is being resented by all the advanced countries. As a matter of fact, the first negotiation was started with the Kennedy round of talks.

श्री बृजराज सिंह (बरेली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे पहले तो मैं इस मिनिस्ट्री के इन-चार्ज मिनिस्टर साहब को बधाई दिये बगैर नहीं रह सकता, क्योंकि, जैसा अभी हमारे मित्र ने कहा है, न्यूनतम अधिकार होते हुए भी उन्होंने अकेले अपने बाहु-बल पर इस मिनिस्ट्री में कुछ सुधार किये हैं और उन के लिए उन्हें बधाई देना आवश्यक है ।

वैसे तो दूतावासों में जो तीन अंग बनाए जाते हैं—इन्टर नेशनल एफेयज, कल्चरल एफेयज और इन्टर नेशनल ट्रेड, उन तीनों में से मैं किसी को भी छोटा मानने के लिए तैयार नहीं हूं ये तीनों बराबर होने चाहिएं और इन तीनों का रिप्रेजेन्टेशन हमारे दूतावासों में होता है । परन्तु यह बड़े खेद की बात है कि इण्टर नेशनल ट्रेड जिस मिनिस्टर के हाथ

[श्री बृजराज सिंह]

में है, केवल उसी को कैबिनेट रैंक प्राप्त नहीं है, जबकि बाकी सब को कैबिनेट रैंक प्राप्त है। इसका सीधा-साधा अर्थ यह होता है कि कैबिनेट में इण्टर नेशनल ट्रेड रिप्रेजेन्टेशन ही नहीं है—कैबिनेट में इण्टर नेशनल ट्रेड का रिप्रेजेन्टेशन बराबर है ही नहीं।

पिछले दस वर्षों में हमारी इन्टरनेशनल ट्रेड को एक बहुत बड़ा धक्का लग रहा था। जैसा कि हमारी एस्टीमेट्स कमेटी की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है, १९५०–६० की अवधि में हमारी एक्सपोर्ट २ परसेंट से घट कर १.१ परसेंट हो गई थी। यह एक बहुत बड़ी शर्मनाक बात हुई, परन्तु हमारे मिनिस्टर महोदय के प्रयास से वह शर्म हमने कुछ कुछ धोई है और काफ़ी तरक्की हमने की है। फिर भी अभी ६० करोड़ रुपये का शार्ट-फाल हमारे एक्सपोर्ट में चल रहा है। परन्तु साथ ही साथ मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि हमारे एक्सपोर्ट और इम्पोर्ट के बीच का मार्जिन काफ़ी हद तक घटता जा रहा है और यदि थोड़े प्रयास और किये गए, तो मैं समझता हूं कि यह मार्जिन घटेगा ही नहीं, बल्कि हमारे एक्सपोर्टस इम्पोर्टस से कहीं आगे बढ़ सकेंगे, ऐसी कामना मैं करता हूं।

परन्तु यह सोच लेना उचित नहीं है कि जो कुछ भी हो रहा है, उसमें कुछ अच्छा हो ही नहीं सकता है। यह मान लेना भी उचित नहीं होगा कि यहां पर जितने भी सजेस्टियन्ज उछाले जा रहे हैं, वे देश से प्रेम न करने वाले लोगों की तरफ़ से उछाले जा रहे हैं। आप एस्टीमेट्स कमेटी की रिपोर्ट को जिधर से भी उलट-पुलट कर देखें, उसमें आपको हर तरफ़ वहीं शिकायतें दिखाई पड़ेंगी, जो कि आज आपोजीशन ने एक छोटे रूप में और बड़े दबे हुए शब्दों में आपके सामने रखी हैं। अगर मैलप्रेक्टिसिज के बारे में आपोजीशन की ओर से कुछ उदाहरण दिये जाये, तो कांग्रेस बैंचिज जरा एलर्जिक मालूम पड़ती हैं, किन्तु एस्टीमेटस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के बारे में तो वे आपत्ति नहीं कर सकते हैं। मैलप्रेक्टिसिस में २५ आइटम्ज हैं और ये ऐसी नहीं हैं जिनके बारे में यह कहा जा सकता हो कि ये मैलप्रेक्टिसिस हो सकती हैं। बल्कि डैफिनिटली यह कहा गया है कि इनमें मैलप्रेक्टिसिस होती हैं। ये २५ हैं। यह लिस्ट मैं पढ़ कर आपको सुना सकता हूं लेकिन इतना समय नहीं है। आफ हैंड ही एक दो मैं आपको बता देता हूं। मैंने कोई मार्क करके नहीं रखी है, छांट कर नहीं रखी हैं। सालिसिटिंग लाइसेंसिस। छोटा सा फिकरा है। मैं नहीं समझ पाता हूं कि कैसे कोई समझदार आदमी कह सकता है कि मैलप्रेक्टिसिस नहीं होती है। आगे कहा गया है, मैनोवरिंग ट्रैफिकिंग इन लाइसेंसिस। आगे नहीं कहता हूं। इससे ही साफ हो जाता है कि भाई भतीजों को लाइसेंस मिल जाते हैं, लाइसेंस मिलने वालों की एक कैटेगरी अलग, बिल्कुल अलग बन गई है और इनकी ट्रेड ऐसी हो गई है कि जिसको जरूरत हो, वह ज्यादा से ज्यादा बिल्डिंग कर सकता है, पैसा दे सकता है और उसको यह चीज मिल सकती है। यह जो सैपरेट क्लास बन गई है, इसको अपोजीशन वाले नहीं कहते हैं और वे अगर कहें तो तकलीफ होती है सरकार को लेकिन एस्टीमेट्स कमेटी कह रही है जिसमें आपका रिप्रजेंटेशन सबसे अधिक है। मैं भी उसका एक मेम्बर हूं...

एक माननीय सदस्य : कमेटी को बधाई दो।

श्री बृजराज सिंह : आगे भी कहा है :

"applying for licences on the basis of forged and fabricated recommendations."

फोर्ज्ड तक ही यह चीज सीमित नहीं है, आगे भी यह चलती है फैब्रिकेटिड रिकमेंडेशन पर भी यह होता है, जो आथोरिटी रिकमेंड

करती है, जो आथोरिटी लाइसेंस देती है, वे सब इसमें सिमट कर आ जाती हैं। अधिक मैं कहना नहीं चाहता हूं। ये जो सब चीजें हैं, ये आपको मालूम हैं।

अब मैं थोड़ा सा डेलीगेशन्ज के बारे में अर्ज करूंगा और साथ साथ एक चुटकला भी सुनाऊंगा। अभी हैम्बर्ग से हमारे एक मित्र आए थे। उन्होंने बताया कि वहां पर प्लास्टिक इलक्ट्रिकल फिटिंग्ज वगैरह के सेल्ज प्रोमोशन के सिलसिले में एक डेलीगेशन गया जिसे गवर्नमेंट ने खर्चा दिया था। वहां टेबल पर सब चीजें फैला कर रख दी गई। इनवाइटीज बुला लिये गये, इण्डस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स बुला लिये गये और उनको कहा गया कि आइये देखिये, हिन्दुस्तान ऐसी ऐसी चीजें बनाता है, ऐसी ऐसी कारगूजारियां हिन्दुस्तान की हैं। कितना सुन्दर माल लेकर आये हैं, इसको आकर देखिये। जब वे लोग आने वाले थे, तो उससे आधा घंटा पहले कोई बड़ा व्यापारी आया और उसने आकर सारी टेबल देखी और देखने के बाद शोल्डर्ज शग किए। तब उससे पूछा गया कि क्या बात है, क्या माल पसन्द नहीं आया है, तो वह कहने लगा बड़ा सुन्दर माल है, बड़ी अच्छी फिनिश है, बड़ा अच्छा वर्कमैनशिप है, इसमें कोई दो रायें नहीं हैं। जब उससे पूछा गया कि आपने शोल्डर्ज शग क्यों किये, तो उसने कहा कि इनमें से एक आइटम भी हमारे यहां कोई आदमी नहीं खरीदेगा। जब उससे पूछा गया कि क्यों नहीं खरीदेगा, जबकि चीजें इतनी अच्छी बनी हैं तो उसने कहा कि इस लिए कि अब हमारे यहां बिजली की फिटिंग दीवार के अन्दर होती हैं ऊपर नहीं...

श्री श्यामलाल सर्राफ (जम्मू तथा काश्मीर) : प्लास्टिक का वहां क्या काम है ?

श्री बूजराज सिंह : आपको क्या बतायें, इलैक्ट्रिक फिटिंग्ज प्लास्टिक की बनती है। वे हिन्दुस्तान से बन कर गई थीं। हमारे शाह साहब आपको बता देंगे।

दीवार के अन्दर फिटिंग्ज होती हैं, इस बात का आइडिया हमारे यहां के लोगों को नहीं था। जैसी यहां बनती हैं, वैसी ही ले जा करके बाहर के मुल्कों को भिजवा देंगे, ऐसा सोच सोच कर उनको यहां से भेज दिया गया था। बहुत अच्छी बनाई है, यह बात तो ठीक थी लेकिन वहां जाकर बेकार होंगी, इसका किसको पता था। इतने पैसे बेकार हुए, नतीजा कुछ नहीं निकला। जो लोग आए हुए थे उन्होंने और बातें भी बतलाईं। उन्होंने कहा कि जो लोग आपके डेलीगेशन्ज लेकर जाते हैं, उनको इतना समय नहीं होता है कि कि वे ठीक तरह से बात भी कर सकें, वे ऐसे आते हैं जैसे कि यहां पर कोई फारेन मिशन आया है और पोलिटिकल रिलेशन्ज के बारे में बात करेगा। वह इस कण्ट्री को जाता है, उस कण्ट्री को जाता है, डायरा प्रिपेयर करता है और लौट आता है एस्टीमेट्स कमेटी ने भी बड़े साफ शब्दों में कहा है इस बात की और उसने भी इसको कोरोबोरेट किया है। मैं आपको पढ़ कर सुना देना चाहता हूं कि उसने क्या कहा है:

"There is a general feeling that most of our trade missions abroad especially in Africa and Asia continue to regard themselves as political diplomats."

अब हमें करना क्या चाहिये इसको आप देखें। सजैशन्ज भी दी हैं। उसने कहा कि डेलीगेशन किसी शापिंग काउण्टर पर जायें, वहां बैठें और देखें कि जब गुड्ज पब्लिक को परचेज के लिए आफर की जाती है तो उन लोगों का रिएक्शन क्या होता है, लोगों की रायें मालूम करें और तब आपको पता चलेगा कि बाहर लोग क्या चाहते हैं। बाहर के लोग क्या पसन्द करते हैं, उनकी शिकायतें क्या हैं। परन्तु हमारे डेलीगेशन्ज को इतना समय नहीं मिलता है इतना समय लेकर हमारे डेलीगेशन जाते नहीं हैं। वे जाते हैं दौरा करने, साइट सीइंग करने। चूंकि पैसा सरकार से मिलता है, वे चुपचाप जाते हैं और लौट आते हैं और एक बड़ी डायरी भर कर दे देते हैं, ट० ए० फार्म्स को भरने के

[श्री बृजराज सिंह]

लिए जिन जिन डिटेल्ज की जरूरत होती है, उनको अपने साथ ले जाते हैं, उनको नोट करके ले आते हैं। इसके अलावा वे कुछ नहीं करते हैं।

बहुत सी चीजें हैं जिनको मैं गिनाना चाहता हूं। जितना समय है...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : पांच मिनट बाकी हैं, जो जी चाहे, कह लें।

श्री बृजराज सिंह : आप दो चार मिनट ज्यादा दूसरों को भी दे देते हैं, मुझ पर भी कृपा करें और दो चार मिनट और दे दें।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आज प्रेशर बहुत अधिक है।

श्री बृजराज सिंह : आप एक्सपोर्ट प्रोमोशन के लिए एग्जीबीशंज करते हैं। यह अच्छी बात है। लेकिन मेरा एक निवेदन है। बाहर के मुल्क जो हमारे यहां एग्जीबीशंज करते हैं, उससे हम को एक सबक लेना चाहिये। बाहर के देशों के लोग हमारी भाषा में चीजों के नाम जानना चाहते हैं, किसी पर्टिकुलर कमोडिटी का नाम जानना चाहते हैं और उन के बारे में न तो हमारा कोई लिट्रेचर होता है और न ही जो एटेंडेंट्स जाते हैं, उनको ही इतना ज्ञान होता है कि वे कम से कम उस चीज का नाम तो हिन्दी में बता सकें। मैं चाहता हूं कि इस ओर आपका ध्यान जाये। हिन्दी में थोड़े हमारे पैम्फलेट्स भी इस तरह से छपें और लोग भी वे भेजे जायें जो कम से कम जिन चीजों का प्रदर्शन करने जाते हैं, उनके नाम तो वहां के लोगों को हिन्दी में बता सकें, याद हों।

हमारी मोशन पिक्चर्ज के बारे में वर्ल्ड ओपिनियन बड़ी सुन्दर और बड़ी अच्छी बन गई है। हमारी डाकुमेंटरी का तो स्थान मैं समझता हूं दुनिया में सर्वोपरि हो चुका है। पर हमारे देश ने अभी यह रीयलाइज नहीं किया है कि जिस तरह से फिल्म फेयर्ज बाहर के देश हमारे देश में करते हैं, हमारी भाषा में या तो कमेंट्री के रूप में या उनका डबिंग करके करते हैं और हमारे लोगों को दिखाते हैं, उसी तरह से हम भी अपनी फिल्में ले जा कर बाहर मुल्कों को उनकी भाषा में डबिंग करके या कमेंट्री उनकी भाषा में करके दिखायें। इस से केवल कल्चरल लाभ ही नहीं होगा बल्कि ट्रेड प्रोमोशन भी हो सकता है, एक्सपोर्ट प्रोमोशन भी कुछ हद तक बढ़ सकता है। फीचर फिल्म्ज के बारे में जहां मेरा कहना है वहां मेरा आशय है हिन्दी, बंगला, तमिल और मराठी फिल्मों से। इन सब का भी डबिंग फारेन लैंगुएज में किया जाय और वहां दिखाया जाए, प्रदर्शित किया जाए, तो बहुत अच्छा होगा।

हमारे एक कम्युनिस्ट मित्र ने एफ्रो-एशियन कंट्रीज के बारे में कुछ बातें कहीं हैं। मैं उनकी बात से सहमत तो नहीं हूं लेकिन इशारतन एक बात अर्ज कर देना चाहता हूं। इसको हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब भी बड़ी अच्छी तरह से जानते होंगे, इसमें मुझे बिल्कुल भी सन्देह नहीं है। जो डिवेलपिंग कंट्रीज हैं, वहां पर उन कंट्रीज में एक साइकोलोजिकल फैक्टर भी काम करता है, उन कंट्रीज में थोड़ा अपना एक इगो होता है, जिसे स्वाभिमान कहते हैं, वह होता है। हम भी कभी अंडर डिवेलेप्ड थे और अब भी मैं समझता हूं, हैं.....

डा० मा० श्री० अणे (नागपुर) : आज भी हैं।

श्री बृजराज सिंह : जी हां, आज भी हैं। हमारा अपना स्वाभिमान है, इगो है। जब कोई बाहर का देश हमें आ कर हमेशा बताता है कि हम यह देने आये हैं, यह लेने आये हैं या ये आगे बढ़ गये हैं तो हमारे स्वा-

भिमान को, हमारे इगो को वह चीज जरा हर्ट करती है। मै इस योग्य नहीं हूं कि मिनिस्टर साहब को एडवाइस दे सकूं, लेकिन एक मश्विरा दूंगा। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब जो एफ्रो-एशियन कंट्रीज हैं, अन-डिवेलप्ड कंट्रीज हैं, बैकवर्ड कंट्रीज हैं, उनसे जब डील करें तो उनके साथ.....

श्री काशीराम गुप्त (अलवर) : एडवाइस और मश्विरे में क्या फर्क है ?

श्री बृजराज सिंह : बड़ा फर्क है, हिन्दी सीखें तो मालूम हो जाएगा। हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब जब उनके साथ डील करें तो उनके स्वाभिमान और उनके सेंटीमेंट्स का अवश्य ध्यान रखें और अगर उन्होंने ऐसा नहीं किया तो कदाचित थोड़ी सी बिटरनेस जो पैदा नहीं होनी चाहिये, पैदा हो सकती है, उसकी थोड़ी सी सम्भावना हो जाएगी।

कुवैत से हमारा व्यापार बढ़ रहा है, यह अच्छी बात है और मैं आपको बधाई देता हूं। यहां से जहाज सामान ले कर जाते हैं, वहां से भी जहाज सामान ले कर आते हैं। पर लौटते समय किसी को पानी भरना पड़ता है, किसी का पत्थर भरना पड़ता है और यह सिक्रोनाइजेशन नहीं हो पाता कि इधर से जो चार्टर्ड शिप्स जायें वे उधर से भी चार्टर हों और हमारा सामान लाने के लिये वे इस्तेमाल हों।

यह साधारण सी बातें हैं जो हमें टूर में लोगों ने सुनाई हैं। मैं आशा करूंगा कि मिनिस्टर साहब इनकी तरफ ध्यान देंगे।

13.00 hrs.

Shrimati Akkamma Devi (Nilgirls): Mr. Speaker, Sir, when we speak on the Ministry of International Trade, what strikes us most is one of the plantation industries, namely, the tea industry. Tea, when compared with other commodities like coffee and rubber, occupies the first place, because it has contributed to our export trade; it has also contributed to our earnings foreign exchange to the maximum. So, we have to appreciate the good work done by the tea growers of our country, and we have to encourage them in all possible ways. But, side by side with these big growers we have the small growers of tea also, who always play an important role in the production and manufacture of high-grown tea in our country.

Last year, while speaking on this demand, I had placed before the hon. Minister of International Trade the sad plight of the small growers and pleaded for incentives which will not only improve their position but will also add to our earnings of foreign exchange. Accordingly, our hon. Minister has taken a sympathetic attitude towards the small growers, and now he has helped them to some extent. For example, in addition to the existing auctions at Cochin and Calcutta, a third one has also been opened at Coonoor for the benefit of the small growers. A representative of the small growers has also been taken on the Tea Board. Thirdly, an experienced officer from the Tea Board has been posted at the regional office to look into the conditions of the small growers and to submit a report to the Tea Board so that their problems will be solved in no time. On behalf of the small growers and also on my own behalf, I extend to the hon. Minister my sincere thanks and gratitude for the sympathetic attitude and helping hand towards the small growers.

Yesterday, the hon. Minister had stated in his opening address that in spite of the uneven weather conditions in the north, the growers from the south have contributed much more to the production of tea and have made up our target for the year 1963. The climate of Niligiris, its altitute, rainfall and soil are best suited for tea cultivation not only in quantity but also in

[Shrimati Akkamma Devi]

quality. If the small growers are given proper incentives at the proper time, it will solve not only their own problems but will be helping us to achieve our target. Incentives like long term loans and fertiliser subsidy help them in the long run.

When I came to know that Government is willing to help the small growers with long term loans, I also came to understand that the problem arises as to how these loans should be distributed to the small growers. There is no difficulty at all in this matter. It is so easy. The money is there with the Government; and then, the district land mortgage banks are there and they are under the co-operative department of the State Governments. These are backed by the State Governments, and our money is safe there. These land mortgage banks are already handling loans to the agriculturists. So, the problem of distribution and collection in respect of the small growers of tea is very, very easily solved. My humble suggestion is that the hon. Minister should not waste time in this matter by asking for some other organisations through the State Governments. The money is safe and the amounts by way of loan can be placed at the disposal of the land mortagage banks straightaway to be distributed to the small growers.

Now, I come to fertiliser subsidy. Again, if we take this up through industrial co-operatives, it will take years for the small growers to be benefited by the subsidy. For example, we have one such factory at Kundah in Nilgiris. The second is under construction, and six more factories are coming up, but I do not think they will be completed even by the end of the fourth Plan. Are the small growers to wait till then? Immediate relief should be given to them. Therefore, I request that the fertiliser subsidy should be supplied to the small growers though the existing village co-operatives, from the supply department to the co-operative central bank of the district.

I next come to tea. Indian tea occupies an important place in the world. India is the largest exporter of tea. From the report we find that the production of tea during 1963 was 344.9 million kg. and that export during 1963 was 223 million kg. Again, among all the principal producing countries in the world like Ceylon, Argentina, Indonesia, Formosa, Turkey and so on, India occupies the first place. India occupied the first place in 1962 by producing 759 million kg. of tea. Again, India is the biggest exporter of tea. Our tea is exported to many countries like the USA, United Kingdom, Ireland, West Germany, Canada, USSR, Egypt, Afghanistan and a few other countries.

We find from the figures that the import of tea by those countries from India has reached 84.7 per cent. This is really encouraging and we have to be very proud about it. In view of the excellent work turned out by our Tea Board, for the tea industry, I request the Minister to give adequate powers to the Board, to invest this Board with more powers so that our tea industry will be developed in the country, the production will be raised and the export trade will be encouraged and it will also lead to an expansion of our tea trade in foreign markets in other countries.

As you have rung the bell, I will conclude my speech after making one more point, and that is with regard to the hire purchase scheme. In this scheme, the expenditure is more than Rs. 1 crore. But it has not helped those cases which really deserve to be helped. For example, in Nilgiris, we have the bought-leaf factories. These bought-leaf factories are also worked by a group of small growers, and they also play an important part in our country towards production and also export trade. But because they are so

poor, their machinery has become very old, only poor quality tea is turned out by them. Also, they cannot derive the benefit out of this scheme, because they have not earned profit during these years; and under this scheme, they want a balance-sheet for the past few years. So, they are not able to take benefit out of this scheme. My only suggestion is that the rules framed for the bigger estates should be relaxed in favour of the small growers. Just as we have the hire purchase system for cars and refrigerators, etc., and just as we have the system in banks and firms, the Board can give the benefit straightaway taking the machinery as security. Regarding payment of interest and other conditions, it can be carried on as in other items.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants.

Shri J. N. Hazarika (Dibrugarh): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much for the opportunity given to me at the end of this debate. I am one of those Members who heartily congratulate the Minister on his having managed these affairs most efficiently. He is the most energetic and dynamic of all the Ministers. I join with Mr. Heda and Mr. Mathur in their appreciation of his work. In spite of all this, I am surprised why his burden has been reduced. During the short time, he has developed the international trade in the most appropriate way and he has given a new lift to his subject. In his short time of office, he has given a lift not only in this country, but I suppose to many other countries in the matter of international trade. While initiating the discussion on his Ministry's demands, he has given us a very clear idea as to what international trade is. Before, we had only a vague idea about it under the Demand of the Directorate of Commercial Intelligence and so on. Now we have been able to get a more clear idea about international trade.

The hon. Minister has created a Marketing Development Fund and thereby he has given a fillip to production as well as export. By his decision to create more trade depots abroad, for which he has asked for Rs. 8 lakhs only, I am sure our international trade will be developed in a better way. He should go a little further. He should open not only trade depots, but more trade consulates should be opened where there are no such consulates. Our Commercial Attaches in the embassies and other missions abroad should be geared up and they should know more about trade than diplomacy and other things, in the way suggested by Mr. Mathur.

13.11 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*].

Besides, he has made certain arrangements abroad by which our trade will increase to a great extent. Internally also he has created certain conditions in the country to gear up exports as well as production. He has given sufficient encouragement to the Tea Board, Coffee Board, Rubber Board and Coir Board. Yesterday he has said that the Tea Board is just like a coordinating body. But to my mind, the Tea Board's responsibility in future will be very great. One day the Tea Board will be just like a Tea Industries Corporation and take over the industry if necessary.

Having said so, I would like to say a few words about the tea industry itself, because in Assam there are 2 million people depending on tea industry and I am glad that many facilities have been given during the last one year or so. The tea machinery hire-purchase scheme and irrigation equipment hire-purchase scheme have really helped the tea-growers. Under the plantation finance scheme, more than 100 applicants have been benefited. Although the production is less this year probably by 1 million Kgms,

[Shri J. N. Hazarika]

yet the export is really higher this year than in 1962 by 9 million kgms or so. This is really due to the strenuous efforts put in by the Minister and his various departments.

Tea industry has also been encouraged, or rather protected, by giving some other tax relief also. The abolition of export duty on tea and also reduction of Central Excise Duty on green tea have really encouraged the tea growers to a great extent, particularly in my area. The Plantation Enquiry Commission of 1956 have suggested how tea gardens could be improved. About the finance and cost survey, steps have already been taken by Government. I hope the recommendations of the Plantation Enquiry Commission will be implemented as early as possible.

He has also given certain concessions to the tea industry in the difficult times. Tea could not go out of Assam and tea machinery could not come to Assam during the Chinese aggression. At the same time, there was the strike, as the House knows, by Pakistani crew in the steamer service. At that time, he provided concessions for movement of machineries and other things to a particular point, where there was bottleneck. He has also given transport subsidy to the tea grown in the interior pockets. Like Tripura, there are certain areas where there is great transport difficulty. In such cases, when this transport relief came, the planters heaved a sign of relief.

I join with Mrs. Akkamma Devi who said that more facilities should be given to the small growers. They are generally situated in the interior places and there they have to spend a lot in the matter of transport and other things. But, at the same time they have also equally to bear all kinds of burdens, under the Plantation Labour Act. Therefore, special attention should be given to the small growers.

I would also like to say a few words about labour. The Plantation Labour Act has not been fully implemented in many tea gardens. The provisions of that Act should be implemented as speedily as possible. I also find that labour welfare centres are not satisfactorily run in certain places. There are only buildings and nothing else. Some money has been spent, but I suggest that some more money should be placed at the disposal of the Tea Board to improve the conditions in the labour welfare centres.

I want to suggest another thing which concerns the general public near about the tea gardens. In my State, the landless population is increasing. Government have given protection to free sample grants programme and they are keeping land which is fit for paddy cultivation and not for tea cultivation. Such areas where only paddy could be grown should be given to the landless people.

Having said that, I would like to say a few words about the STC. It should be the biggest and greatest public sector undertaking and 50 per cent of the Central revenues should come from this. So, I will not grudge if it makes a little profit. It is true that some Members have criticised it by saying that STC is making huge profits. But I feel that more profits should be earned by it in the interests of improvement of Central revenue.

Then I want to make a few suggestions. The 22nd Congress of the International Chamber of Commerce will be held in India for which a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs has been provided. As the Federation of the Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry is very rich, it can very well finance the

whole venture. So a token assistance of Rs. 25,000 or so by the Government would have been sufficient instead of Rs. 5 lakhs.

Then, in the cardamom business of STC, though Rs. 60 lakhs has been paid in order to keep the floor price, but only Rs. 50 lakhs has been got back and so there is a loss of Rs. 10 lakhs. I do not understand why STC is inurring a loss on this.

I shall be grateful if the hon. Minister enlightens us about the activities of the Institute of Economic Development and Planning at Bangkok.

Lastly, coming to international trade fairs, some hon. Member has suggested that Members of Parliament should go and see these fairs. I support this view that Members of Parliament should be allowed to go to such fairs to see how they are running abroad.

श्री राम सेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कल जब मंत्री महोदय ने अपने अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार मंत्रालय के नियंत्रणाधीन अनुदानों की मांगों पर शुरू में चर्चा की तो उन्होंने बतलाया कि जनेवा में जो विश्व व्यापार सम्मेलन हो रहा है उसमें वह कुछ दिक्कतों को दूर करने की बात रखेंगे जैसे टैरिफ़ आदि की बातें उनसे करेंगे। मैं आप के द्वारा उनसे निवेदन करूंगा कि वह जनेवा सम्मेलन में यह जो कच्चे पक्के मालों के मूल्यों में असन्तुलन है उस पर विशेष ध्यान दें। संसार में कच्चे और पक्के मालों के मूल्यों में इतना जबरदस्त असन्तुलन और विषमता है जिसके कि दूर किये बिना संसार के एक दूसरे देश के बीच में जो व्यापार चलता है उससे अधिक लाभ होने वाला नहीं है। श्रीमन् मैं इस पर कुछ सुझाव दूंगा और चाहूंगा कि इस पर विचार किया जाये। जैसे अमरीका के अन्दर अपने ही देश में कुछ चीजों के मूल्यों को ठीक रखने के लिए कोई न कोई कार्यवाही की जाती है उसी तरह से संसार में एक, दूसरे देश के कच्चे पक्के मालों के दामों में जो भारी असंतुलन है उसको ठीक रखने के लिए कोई उपाय सोचा जाये।

इसी तरह से मैं एक बात और निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार में आमतौर से यह समझा जाता है कि एक देश से दूसरे देश को जो माल गया अगर धन की राशि बराबर हो जाती है तो यह कहा जाता है कि व्यापार में सन्तुलन चल रहा है लेकिन मैं आप से निवेदन करूं, श्रीमन् कि पश्चिमी देश खासतौर से, यूरोप और अमरीका और रंगीन देश और पिछड़े देश, अगर उन दोनों देशों की तुलना की जाय और इसका आधार मान कर चलें कि अगर धनराशि आने जाने वाली बराबर होती है तो व्यापारिक संतुलन क़ायम हो जाता है तो यह एक जबरदस्त भूल होगी क्योंकि अमरीका और यूरोप का एक घंटा और पिछड़े और रंगीन देशों के १५ घंटे क़रीब क़रीब बराबर होते हैं। इसलिए जब तक इसे ठीक नहीं किया जाता तब तक अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार में खासतौर से हिन्दुस्तान और पिछड़े देशों को कोई लाभ नहीं होगा। मैं मंत्री महोदय से आशा तो क्या करूं कि वे इसे ठीक करेंगे लेकिन साथ साथ यह भी निवेदन करूंगा कि वे इस चीज को ठीक करने के लिए कोई कदम उठायें क्योंकि इसके रहते जो शोषण होता है एक देश द्वारा दूसरे देश का, एक तरक्कीयाफ्ता देश एक पिछड़े देश का जो एक दूसरे का इस तरह से शोषण करता रहता है और इसी तरीक़े से बराबर नुक़सान होता रहता है और साथ ही साथ जो किसी पिछड़े देश के निर्माण के लिए विदेशों से सहायता मिलती है जो सहायता देखने में अधिक लगती है लेकिन उस का वास्तविक रूप कम होता है और इस तरीक़े से उसमें भी शोषण हो जाया करता है।

[श्री राम सेवक यादव]

इसके साथ साथ मैं एक चीज मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूं हालांकि मैं आशा तो नहीं करता कि वह काम मंत्री महोदय उनके नेता के बस और बूते का है। वह यह है कि जैसे शांति के ऊपर, निरस्त्रीकरण के ऊपर इस तरह के शिखर सम्मेलन होते हैं, आज इस बात की आवश्यकता है कि राष्ट्रपति जानसन और प्रधान मंत्री ख्रुश्चेव एक इस तरीके का शिखर सम्मेलन करें कि किसी तरीके से न्याय और बराबरी के आधार पर एक दूसरे के देश में व्यापार चलाया जा सकता है। अगर इस तरह की बात हो तो श्रीमन्, बहुत बड़ा सहयोग मिल सकता है और अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार न्याय, बराबरी आयदे के आधार पर चल सकते हैं।

श्रीमन्, इस बात का भी इस सदन में जिक्र हुआ दूसरे कुछ लोगों ने किया कि जो बीजक बनाये जाते हैं वह फर्जी बनाये जाते हैं। दूसरे देशों से जो चीजें मंगाई जाती हैं उनके दाम अधिक दिखाये जाते हैं जबकि वास्तविक दाम कुछ और अदा किये जाते हैं लेकिन कागज पर उसको अधिक बढ़ा कर दिखलाये जाते हैं। इस तरीके से जो इस देश से सामान जाता है उनको कम करके दिखलाया जाता है, दाम उनको अधिक मिलते हैं। वास्तविक रूप में लेकिन दिखलाये उससे कम जाते हैं। इसमें जबरदस्त भ्रष्टाचार चलता है और जिस विदेशी मुद्रा की दिक्कतें आती जाती रहती हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगा कि यह जो फरजी बीजक होते हैं, इस तरह के कई मामले हैं, उनके सामने भी आये होंगे और मेरे पास भी इस तरह का एक मामला है। मैं मंत्री महोदय के पास उसे भेजूंगा और उनसे चाहूंगा कि यह जो फरजी बीजक चलते हैं जिन से कि एक तरह का भ्रष्टाचार होता है उसको रोका जाये।

इसी तरीके से अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार में कुछ ऐसी चीजें हैं जोकि दूसरे देशों से मंगायी जाती हैं, जबरदस्त मुनाफा चलता है। ५००—६०० गुना मुनाफा उस पर कमाया जाता है। इस तरीके से जो मुनाफा कमाया जाता है उसमें भ्रष्टाचार राजकीय लोग अपने परिवार या अपने दल को ठीक ठाक करने के लिए किया करते हैं। इसका कारण यह है कि वह चीज रुक नहीं पाती, खासतौर से सत्तारूढ़ दल के वह मंत्री जो कि अपने को वाम पंथी कहते हैं और उनको किसी पूंजीपति से सहायता नहीं मिलती है वह इस तरह की चीजों का उपयोग करते हैं। इसके लिये मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि इसका कोई उपाय सोचें ताकि इस तरह का भ्रष्टाचार समाप्त हो।

इस तरीके से मैं एक बात विदेशी मुद्रा के बारे में कहूंगा जिसका कि दुरुपयोग होता है। उसको ले कर भ्रष्टाचार चलता है। मैं उसके बारे में कहूंगा। आयात, निर्यात के बारे में भी तमाम तरीके की शिकायतें हैं। डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया ने इस सिलसिले में आगरे के बारे में एक प्रश्न उठाया था, मंत्री महोदय ने उस चीज को सही भी कहा लेकिन चूंकि वह कुछ लाख का ही मामला था, ज्यादा लम्बा नहीं था और चूंकि वह छोटा मामला था इसलिए प्रतीत होता है कि शायद मंत्री महोदय ने उसे महत्व नहीं दिया। उसी तरीके से मैं भी एक छोटा सा मामला पेश करना चाहता हूं। वह ५०,००० रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा का मामला है। उसका दुरुपयोग किया उसकी शिकायतें आईं। वह चीज अखबारों में भी छपी लेकिन उस पर अभी तक कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हुई। शायद इसी नाते न हुई हो कि मंत्री महोदय ने उसे छोटा मामला समझ कर महत्व न दिया हो.....

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य का समय समाप्त हो रहा है।

श्री राम सेवक यादव : मैं केवल दो मिनट में उस सारी चीज को जोकि १६

नवम्बर सन् १९६३ के टाइम्स आफ इंडिया के बम्बई ऐडीशन में निकली थी उसको पढ़ कर सुनाना चाहता हूं और चाहता हूं कि इस तरह की चीजों पर ध्यान दिया जाये। वहां पर ग्राम उन्नति तथा स्वास्थ्य के जो सचिव थे उन्होंने यह मान लिया था कि पूना कारपोरेशन अंडरटेकिंग के दो अधिकारियों के खिलाफ ५०,००० रुपये की विदेशी मुद्रा के दुरुपयोग की शिकायतें थीं। एक पत्र भी उनका आया था। वह पत्र भी पढ़ कर सुनाया गया। उनकी मुअत्तिली और हटाये जाने की बात थी लेकिन उसके बाद दूसरा पत्र आता है और वह कार्यवाही रद्द की जाती है....

Shri Manubhai Shah: For the information of the hon. Member I may say that the matter is under police investigation in the most strict manner. We have taken action against them. पुलिस के हाथ में सारा केस है। मैं उन को इतमीनान दिलाना चाहता हूं कि उस पर पूरी तवज्जह दी जा रही है और कोई ढील या गफलत उसमें नहीं बर्ती जायगी।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य का समय समाप्त हो गया है।

श्री राम सेवक यादव : मैं केवल दो मिनट ही लूंगा और उन दो पत्रों को पढ़ कर सुनाऊंगा।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मंत्री महोदय ने कहा है कि उस मामले में पुलिस इनवैस्टिगेशन चल रही है इसलिये उस पर वे अभी कुछ न कहें।

श्री राम सेवक यादव : मैं तो जो अखबार में निकला है केवल वही पढ़ कर सुनाना चाहता हूं .....

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर। माननीय सदस्य को बतला दिया गया है कि वह मामला अभी विचाराधीन है।

श्री राम सेवक यादव : मैं अपनी तरफ से कोई कमैंट नहीं कर रहा हूं खाली अखबार में जो निकला है उन दोनों पत्रों को मैं पढ़े दे रहा हूं। पहला यह है।

"The letter expressed the desire of the Government that a thorough inquiry should be ordered into the matter and that the two officers suspended during its pendency.

Their suspension and removal from the posts they held, it was pointed out, would disable them from interfering with the inquiry.

The members were taken aback when the Mayor read out another letter from Dr. Shaikh dated November 11 wherein the Mayor was requested to treat the Government's first letter as 'cancelled for the time being.'

Member after member, belonging to all patries, got up and demanded a thorough inquiry against the two officials irrespective of the State Government's 'second thoughts' on the subject.

On persistent demands, the Mayor agreed to call a special meeting of the corporation to discuss thoroughly the whole affair and decide on the course of action to be taken."

Now, I am reading out the second letter.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is under inquiry.

Shri Ram Sewak Yadav: "The first letter from the Government

[Shri Ram Sewak Yadav]

stated that the Director of the Anti-Corruption and Prohibition Intelligence Bureau had reported that two officers of the Poona Municipal Transport Undertaking—Mr. V. D. Desai, transport manager, and Mr. K. S. Bangar, works manager—were involved in a 'comspiracy to misuse' about Rs. 50,000 worth of foreign exchange allotted by the Controller of Imports and Exports, the Government of India, for motor spare parts in favour of the corporation."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is under investigation.

श्री राम सेवक यादव : इस तरह की घटनायें हो रही हैं । चाहिये तो यह था कि उस सचिव को और उन दो अधिकारियों को जेल में रखा जाता और उस के बाद जांच कर के उन की सारी सम्पत्ति जब्त की जाती और अन्य आवश्यक कार्यवाही की जाती ।

Shri M. Malaichami (Periyakulam): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I thank you for the opportunity given to me and I take this opportunity to congratulate the Ministry for the spectacular achievement effected in improving the export trade and thereby the balance of payments position of the country. If the export trade is increased, it means that the employment potential and the industrial potential of the country are also given a fillip favourable to the economic growth of the country for which the Ministry has done marvellous job this year.

In addition to the improvement, several measures have been instituted for installing healthy practices in the export trade, like, quality control, sample adherence, contractual fulfilment and price stabilisation. For the proper economic growth of the country both the agricultural and the indurstrial sectors must be given sufficient oppotrunities to develop themselves.

I want to say a few words about the cardamom plantation industry which is mainly carried on in the Western Ghats region of Mysore, Kerala and Madras States. I would impress upon the hon. Minister that this industry is carried on mainly by small growers who own not more than 15 acres of land. Even though there may be big planters owning more than 100 acres or so, the majority of the agriculturists own plantation lands between 10 and 15 acres.

The spices trade in our country had international repute from time immemorial. Caradomom is one of the spices which has got great potential for the export trade and where the possibilities are also great. But during the last year the industry had experienced some difficulties. On account of the efficient steps taken by the Government and the price support policy adopted by the Government the cardamom industry was able to get a fair price and the steep fall was averted.

श्री यशपाल सिंह (कैराना) : डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, हाउस में कोरम नहीं है ।

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath (Hoshangabad): There are hardly 30 Members.

Shri M. Malaichami: The Cardamom Development and Marketing Advisory Committee has also brought the cardamom industry under the Export Trade Control regulations.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He is flying to Geneva tonight; he must have quorum before he flies.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The bell is being rung. Now there is quorum. He may continue his speech.

Shri M. Malaichami: Cardamon worth only Rs. 2.92 crores has been

exported during the year. There are great possibilities for increasing the production and the productivity of cardamom and also for earning additional foreign evchange.

The recent survey of the former Zamindari tracts of the Madras State has revealed that the possibility for the expansion of the industry is great. A study of the cardamom plantation by an expert body would help to suggest the various measures to be adopted for affecting economy in the carrying of plantations and for reducing the cost of plantation.

The problems at present experienced by the cardamom plantation are low productivity, increasing cost of cultivation, want of a remunerative price and expansion in the international market. I am confident that the hon. Minister who will shortly be attending the international conference would devote his full attention to improving the possibilities of exporting this commodity which is primarily grown in three States giving employment and also helping in raising the economic standard of the agriculturists to a large extent. Those who are doing agriculture in the plains get an opportunity to improve their economic standard by carrying on these plantation in the hilly areas which are predominantly done in three States.

Cardamom cultivation helps the planters to improve their economic standard and, at the same time, helps us to earn valuable additional foreign exchange. Roman gold and Persian horses were exchanged for our spices. That significance would still be maintained if we give sufficient opportunity to the spices trade to develop itself. So, I would request the hon. Minister to help the industry on the production side as well as in increasing export by constituting a Cardamom Board which would enable the industry to get grant-in-aid from the Marketing Development Fund for commodity research, area survey and research programme. This survey will necessarily encourage the industry and provide the necessary know-how to reduce the cost of cultivation and improve the foreign exchange earning capacity of the plantations.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am overwhelmed and have not adequate words to thank the hon. Members and the House for the kind words which they have spoken about the functioning of this Ministry. I can only hope that I will try to do my utmost to keep up the confidence expressed by the Members of the House in the years to come.

The major concern of any country when it tries to develop in modern economy is naturally foreign trade which has to be backed by domestic production. These two matters are two sides of the same coin and cannot be seprated from one as rightly pointed out by several hon. Members and which I have the privilege to repeat from time to time namely that increasing production is the only way to increase exports or the economic growth of this country, and increasing production in all sectors of the national economy, agriculture, plantation industry, services, transport, minearls and every other matter. Therefore, it was right that the House emphasized this point and that is what we have been urging also over the years. In this matter also, we have taken a little more selective approach that over and above increase in production which is really covered by the whole gamut of the national Plans, we are now giving an export-orientation to nationl production; because, if the production has to serve the main national purpose, that is the progress of the nation on all fronts, the necessity of modern techonology in terms of capital goods, in terms of technical know-how, raw materials and components, one has to depend in a growing economy on a larger and larger im-

[Shri Manubhai Shah]

ports. That is the only way out for years to come, maybe a generation, and the import bill will have to continue to expand and the larger import bill can only be sustained on larger and growing exports which can come only from the larger growing national cake in terms of production. Therefore, the 'virtuous' circle, as I had the privilege to mention: larger production, larger exports, larger imports in order to finance larger production have to be brought about. This is the basic front of the policy we are having on the foreign trade. It is good that in the very early years of our effort of foreign trade some success has been achieved but this should not lull us into any complacency or false sense of satisfaction. We have yet to travel on a long road and a hard and difficult road in order to achieve the target of 1200 or 1400 or 1500 crores. Even when we achieve that fantastic figure which looks to us like a dream today, it will be one of the smallest foreign trade per capita in the whole world. Even in the smaller countries of Asia and Africa, leave alone the mighty industrialised nations of the world, the per capita figure of foreign trade in India is one of the lowest. Therefore, I would ask for the blessing of the House and I would urge the entire production community of this country in every sector to gear themselves and bestir themselves for larger and larger production towards export orientation. In exports also, the main thing is the agricultural crop, the plantation crop, which forms more than 60 to 65 per cent of our national gross production and our foreign trade. This is not only the situation here. This is a situation throughout the world. Even in the mighty industrialised countries of the United States and some of the Western European countries like Netherlands, Switzerland on this side of Asia and New Zealand which have got the highest per capita foreign trade in the world, more than 20 times our national per capita foreign trade, it is the agricultural sector, it is the plantation sector and the minerals sector which are the back-bone of their foreign trade as it is in this country. Therefore, while we all want industrialisation, it is very necessary that the highest priority should be given to agricultural products oriented towards export. For instance, in India, we have sugar tobacco, cashew, groundunt and vegetable oils, the various forms of jute and jute goods, tea and coffee. All these products contribute today to Indian exports more than 70 per cent and if the gross production in these directions can go up even by 5 per cent, we can easily contribute extra Rs. 100 crores a year in exports. This is the work and the estimate that we have been carrying out in the Ministry and if more and more attention can be given to this sector of national economy, our problems of foreign trade can be made easier.

Then, the next question, as some of the hon. Members rightly pointed out, was the cost of production. We have appointed the Muranjan Committee and rightly a Member on the opposite side who mentioned about this was rightly exercised about it saying that we should implement the recommendations. I can assure him that cost consciousness will have to be built in if the long term battle of export has to be won. Therefore, we have requested the Planning Commission and very soon a Division on Cost Reduction Studies will be established in the Planning Commission because none of the Ministries at the Centre is competent to coordinate the work of so many Ministries and so many State Governments and so many public authorities and the Planning Commission alone can focus the national attention on the programmes to reduce the cost of production in all sectors of the economy.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: None of the Ministries at the Centre is competent?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Not a single one. Suppose it is the Agriculture Ministry. Then they cannot look after the cost of production in steel. If you take the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries, they cannot look after the cost of production of textiles and jute. But the Planning Commission which is a national forum is the highest tribune on the economic front and is a competent body both in respect of the federal Government and the State Governments and various Ministries to study this thing in a more intensive manner and I do feel that such studies will highlight the disabilities from which we are suffering. Sometimes, it may be the raw materials production cost, as Mr. Mathur was rightly pointing out; sometimes it may be the taxation policy of the Government, and sometimes it may be several other problems which the State Governments may have, and sometimes there may be problems concerning panchayats and the municipalities which are multiple fold of public authorities developing in a democratic country of the dimension of a continent like India. It is necessary to study the various facets which go into the cost of production and I do hope over the next five years.....

Dr. L. M. Singhvi (Jodhpur): Why not have such a cost study unit in the Institute of Foreign Trade itself?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It can be done. But I am not worried about the cost aspect only from the foreign trade point of view. It is a basic aspect. The cost function of national economy is much more than the foreign trade. We have got to see all this. You cannot produce something as with less cost for foreign trade when you do not produce the same at less cost for internal consumption. Therefore, the cost has to be a basic function. Of course, prior attention will be given to such sectors which play a preponderant role in export trade. That is a matter of priority. But cost consciousness has got to pervade the whole national structure of economy and particularly the agricultural structure, the plantation structure and the primary product structure because if the cost goes down there, the productivity increases there and we can have a cheaper type of production in all the other sectors of the economy. Those are matters which we have to study. But we do want to focus national attention on cost reduction programmes in an intensive manner through the agency of the Planning Commission with which everybody will fully cooperate.

Then there is the other question which was not raised this time and which is a very paramount one and that is the quality consciousness. This country has got to make quality as a *mantram* if the foreign trade is to go up. In recent times last year, we brought in the National Council of Export Inspection and Quality Control. The Council has started functioning and we have brought many products of foreign trade under the Export Inspection Council. We have got to win the battle of quality. We can sell a product in a foreign market by various means and assistance even if the price is a little higher. But we cannot sell a sub-standard thing. We have to create a healthy and sound image of India. In ancient times the Indian merchandise travelled across seven seas, thousands and thousands of miles away from here, over the continents because our forefathers were very quality conscious. It is that image which has to be re-created back and captured back so that the India's consistency in good standards morality, India's high prestige and India's consistency in good standards and quality which alone can win the battle of foreign trade.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: For that, it must be more than a mere *mantram*.

Shri Manubhai Shah: It will be more than a mere *mantram*. We are going to penalise the defaulters; we are trying to establish inspectorates all over the country; we are establishing national laboratories and test houses to see that the products are of good quality before they are exported.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: *Mantram* and *tantram* should go together.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Both and something more than that perhaps.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: *Jantar, mantar* and *tantar*.

Shri Ravindra Varma (Thiruvella): Mr. Kamath is worried about tantrums.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Here also you cannot isolate quality of exports from quality of internal production. It is an interwoven thing. Foreign trade is only a part of the national trade or national commerce or national production. But certainly we shall give priority to quality for exports. I am glad to say that very many products, in fact, more than about 50 products have been brought under the quality control and pre-shipment inspection, and that in the next three or four years, we want to cover as much ground as possible. I would like to appeal on behalf of the House and myself to the entire producing and trading community and the industrial community of this country to become more and more qualityminded. That is one single factor, as compared to any other factor, which is the *sine qua non* for winning our battle against the stagnation of foreign trade or the battle of enlarging foreign trade by sufficient dynamism to cover the lost ground over the last fifteen or sixteen years or of the last one hundred or two hundred years. What we want to take up in the next fifteen years can be covered only if quality-consciousness becomes a *mantram*, as I said, of the foreign trade or of the indigenous trade of this country.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It should not be just a *mantram*, but it should become a whole Veda.

Shri Manubhai Shah: But ideas have legs, and if ideas pervade, they get momentum, and, therefore, ideas have to be fundamentally nurtured and founded and embedded in the great foundation of this country. Otherwise, we just cannot make the people quality-conscious.

I shall now deal with the individual question which hon. Members have raised. First, I shall deal with import policy. My hon. friend Shri Umanath suggested and many other Members also had rightly pointed out that there should be a remedy to the several abuses which are inherent in foreign trade, such as under-invoicing, over-invoicing, fake licensing, various types of profiteering and trafficking in licences and various other abuses. Some of them have been enumerated by the hon. Member from the report of the Estimates Committee. I can add another dozen or two dozens, if my hon. friends want, in regard to these abuses, because these are all cross-sections of the human weaknesses not only in foreign trade but all along the gamut of the profit motive that always bestirs an individual. The remedy suggested by my hon. friend from the Communist Party was to nationalise all foreign trade. If ever morality can be re-established by doing that, then, certainly, we would have tried that or even thought of that consideration. I do not think that this particular vice which is very bad, which cannot be tolerated, and which should be fought, does not exist in those economies where everything is nationalised or where there is all State trading. I am not trying to belittle it, but I would like to say that oversimplification of a solution is not the best way to tackle this problem.

The remedial measures must be practical and pragmatic and ones which fit in with the social and moral environment of the country which we

are trying to build up. We are a democratic country and we are a free country. We do want State trading to expand, and I have been repeatedly saying so, and during the last two years, as the House has observed, from less than about Rs. 30 crores, we have come to about Rs. 150 crores worth of State trading and I had cautioned the entire trading community at the meetings of the Export-Import Advisory Council that State trading shall expand, and expand in all the commodities where bulk trading or canalisation or high profits are involved in different sectors, but we shall not make it a *mantram* or make it a dogma or make it a theory of an ideologue that everything should be under State Trading. As Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo has rightly pointed out, there are experienced private traders and there are experienced men in business with traditions of hundreds and hundreds of years. We should not bring all such products under State trading; we just do not want to displace all those people for the sake of an idea or a doctrine. But, at the same time, a balanced blend, a healthy mixture of State trading and healthy private foreign trade is the only solution, in my humble opinion, which my party has accepted, and which, I think, the nation as a whole has accepted during the last several years and which I hope it will continue to do in the years to come.

My hon. friend mentioned various figures about the profits made by somebody or the other. I do not vouchsafe for those figures or for the figures which my hon. friend Shri Rameshwar Tantia gave. But it is true that when a temptation is placed on highly profitable items before private individuals, whatever the moral or ethical code you evolve, whatever be the legal penalties you may prescribe, these things would happen; therefore, it is better to take away the temptation from them. Therefore, I had mentioned last time at the council meeting that we would be seeking to canalise the highly profitable scarce commodities in the next few years into the hands of the State Trading Corporation. We have taken away several such commodities and canalised them through the STC. during the last two years, and more commodities will have to be canalised through the STC in the coming years. That does not mean that the trade in private hands would diminish, because when the whole foreign trade is expanding, we shall use their agencies also in a properly legal manner and in the proper traditional manner for internal distribution with proper controls. Therefore, it is not as if the trade is being taken away from one agency to another. But it is good for their own reputation that the State should come to their help and distribute in such a manner that the blame does not attach to them.

I would say in this connection that the word 'profiteering' for a community's organisation is rather a misplaced word. If we charge in the community sector or in the State trading sector a price which due to the scarcity of that commodity in market operation is x or a little less than x, we do not charge the consumer more than what would be the case if this agency would not have intervened. If the consumer and the importer were left to themselves, the consumer would have to pay the same or a much higher price. Therefore, I would not like to use the same word 'profiteering' for this national organisation. Now, there are about five State trading corporations. It may be that a few more commodity corporations might come into existence for some more items. Therefore, the blessings of the House should be invoked, as far as I am concerned, and as I can see it, on these STC operations in seveal commodities and the profit which the STC has shown. Yesterday, I had pointed out that over the years from 1956 to 1963 the trade in the STC has increased almost tenfold or it may be even fifteenfold in some items, and with a turnover of Rs. 150 crores to Rs. 180 crores, and with a gross profit of about

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Rs. 4½ crores, a net profit of about Rs. 1¼ crores is not something which can be called unconscionably high. And this is not something which can be called as profiteering.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar (Karur): It is very poor.

Shri Manubhai Shah: I am glad if somebody calls it poor or if the House calls it poor, because then we are encouraged to see that more profits would be made.....

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: There is also the social objective.

Shri Manubhai Shah: There is also the social objective, as my hon. friend points out. The money which goes into the hands of the STC comes back to the country and it does not go into any private hands. Of course, if there is any corruption, as undoubtedly there may be some, if there is any type of nepotism, as undoubtedly it may exist, if there is any type of defalcation, if any official in the STC or any other such trading corporation—we have a number of them now; we have the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation, the Handloom and Handicraft Corporation; then, we are having the Films Export Corporation, then we have the Banana Development Corporation; we are having nearly five corporations now, and it may be that more such commodity corporations may be set up—is corrupt, and if any hon. Member or any citizen of this country brings it to our notice or to the notice of any of my colleagues that there is corruption in one particular case or in many cases, I can assure my hon. friends that we shall look into them and take the necessary action. I can assure my hon. friend Shri Ram Sewak Yadav that in regard to the Rs. 50,000 which he mentioned with reference to the Poona Municipality, about which I had already given an assurance that the police case is going on, we shall take the necessary action; we shall take every individual case and take the strongest action possible against the defaulters. But this is my impression—I do not know how far I am right—that over the years, gradually, the public officials of this country have behaved in a manner which is much more responsive to the urges of this nation, towards the socialistic objective, towards the expansion of the public sector, and towards the expansion of the State trading sector, and they have acted more morally than anyone else in this great task that we have before us. Without their co-operation, the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation could not have worked—the expansion of the mineral ore, such as iron ore, manganese ore or various other types of ore and various important items which they are canalising. We are not, as Shri L. N. Bhanja Deo was saying, like the particular firm with two hundred years of experience. We cannot compress human history of 30 or 40 or 100 years into five or ten years. And yet, these officials within the small period of ten to fifteen years since their entering into business, have shown remarkable flexibility and adaptability to the art of management in industry and trade in the public sector and governmental corporations. I am saying this because I find that on so many occasions these officials are being run down. I am not siding with them when I say this, but I know them, intimately and I know their work in the governmental corporations, and I know intimately how most of them are functioning, how honestly most of them are functioning. If socialism is to come to this country, if the public sector is to expand, if State trading is to expand, they are the bulwark or foundation on which you can build the future of this country. If certainly, any of them is corrupt, we should catch them and punish them.

Therefore, I would invoke the blessing of my hon. friend Shri Ranga who in season and out of season is

saying that the private trade is superior to the public trade; I would like to tell him that both public and private trade have a definite place in our economy and both will have to grow in a healthy manner.

Shri Ranga: I hope that my hon. friend will continue to remember what he has said last.

Shri Manubhai Shah: We always remember that. Without that there is no escape. We have always said that there has to be the co-existence of these two sectors.

Shri Ranga: But my hon. friend wants the public sector to go on growing, growing and growing. He wants more and more power for Government.

Shri Manubhai Shah: We are only transitory people. We come and go, but the country remains. Therefore, the main thing is that the basic policies must be such as are healthy and strong.

I was merely urging that the remedy suggested by my hon. friend Shri Umanath was not the only remedy or the remedy suggested by my hon. friend Shri P. K. Deo was not the only remedy. The remedy is something which the House on this side, and the national party of the Congress of this country has assumed, and that is a good mixture between the public sector and private sector, between foreign trade in private hands and foreign trade in public hands, which alone in the long run is paying.

As regards import licensing, a suggestion has been made that everything else is all right, but there should be a high-powered commission to go into the matter. I do not know what that commission means. We formulate the policy for the country according to the politics and ideologies that we have placed before the country, and we go for their votes every five years. How can the commission be separated from the group which runs the Government or which enjoys the confidence of the country as a Government? If there are abuses, we are prepared to go into them and we are prepared to find remedies for them. But it is not possible to have any group of people who will be uninfluenced or non-approachable by any set of people or who will always do wonders. I do not know who will guide them, how they will evolve their policies, and how they will integrate with various people. Therefore, such types of suggestions are impracticable.....

Shri Ranga: They would have no axe to grind.

Shri Manubhai Shah: I have not known of any man who has no axe to grind. Some may do the grinding in a more intense manner while others may do it lightly. But I can assure him that the Chief Controller's office and the apparatus we have evolved for implementing import and export policies are receptive to suggestions. If the hon. Member can give us suggestions, we are entirely at his disposal. We are prepared to correct ourselves and improve the working of the apparatus.

14 hrs.

On the general import policy, I would only say this that defence and export-oriented industries are going to receive the highest priority. Requirements of agriculture and plantations will be met in full. The cut in regard to small scale industries shall be restored. As my hon. friend, Shri Mathur and others have urged, we will try to see if we cannot give them a little more this year than otherwise because in whatever little improvement that takes place,

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they should be the greater beneficiaries than others. Maintenance imports will be maintained fully, barring, as I said, in respect of such items which are manufactured indigenously, which will be cut down.

In respect of capital goods, I have already mentioned that the figures have gone up. We will try to give a little more for machinery and plant. But we are going to cut down very drastically the low priority items. Of course, manoeuvrability in Indian import policy is so little; wherever there is no scope, whichever item is not necessary for more production, for the healthy growth of the national economy, those will have to be curtailed. That is the broad policy.

Even on the import of spare parts, thin wall bearings and various items, drugs, medicines, X-ray films, hospital requirements, various homeopathic medicines, arms and ammunition—whose dealers have been deprived of their livelihood for years—we will try to give a smal quota or small percentage in the next import policy which would be announced on the 31st March. It will be announced on due date and it will cover these matters.

An hon. Member said that three items were left out in the Red Book. There was no item left out there. It is a comprehensive document which contains all items. As far as the actual users are concerned, it will depend on individual units.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Why call it 'Red'?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is a historical inheritance. If the hon. Member likes, it can be of a different colour, green or yellow.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Why should it be Red?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Inside it is all white.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Is it international practice or only national practice?

Shri Manubhai Shah: No, no.

Shri Firodia (Ahmednagar): What about machinery required for irrigation?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Agricultural irrigation and plantation machinery requirements will be met adequately. Whatever is made locally, will have to be used. But where old machinery is lying idle for want of spare parts and they are suffering, we shall try to accommodate them. As I said, we are going to give very high priority in future to agriculture, plantation, fertilisers, tractors and diesel engines. Except those that are produced indigenously, the rest will have to be met from imports.

Coming now to the question of export promotion, sufficient has been said on the subject and I do not want to say anything more except to say that we have got to have product-wise studies. We have already undertaken them. The Export Sector Committee of the Board of Trade has been divided into small sub-committees. There this problem has been intensively studied over the last one year as to in which field we can promote exports, by what products and so on, because the ultimate instrument in our hands is the individual product, a compodium of products.

Shri Ranga: Mica?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I will come to commodities a little later. I would of course deal with such an important commodity like mica.

On the export promotion side also, I have spoken about incentives, that we are not wedded to incentives. At the same time, there is no country in

the world which does or can do without incentives. Any hon. Member who examines this subject can find that out.

An Hon. Member: Japan.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Japan, US, Germany, most of the industrialised countries do that.

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu): What is wrong with it?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I am merely explaining. There is some misunderstanding in some quarters. I want to make it clear that incentives are absolutely important. But they are not the only things on which export moves. There are items which do not need incentives. We do not give it. We have shown in the Book that about 80 per cent do practically without any such assistance. We have to see that they become more and more economic in their cost of production. We have to see to it that the need for margin between the international price and the local cost of production is reduced. But where it is necessary, I give this assurance on behalf of the Central Government, as I have repeatedly done so, to all exporters in this country that the Government shall stand by them, that we shall see that the margin between the international price and the local cost of production is made up in one form or the other by suitable forms of assistance, so that the foreign trade of the country does not suffer. This is a very vital thing for which the blessing of the whole House is required. This may be in various forms—it may be in the form of import licence for raw materials, it may be sometimes in cash, it may be in the shape of income tax relief, it may take the form of a drawback of duty, in a compodium of 10, 20, 30 ways and forms of assistance.

The theory of incentives is that they have to be felt, but not seen. We do not want to give an incentive which can be calculated at once, and the international price affected. It has to be felt but not visible, so that nobody can calculate in advance what the total packet of incentive will be. It has to remain divided into several compartments, so that even the individual who exports is not able to calculate and pass on the information to the foreigner.

This is the incentive theory we are following in India, unlike currency retention recommended by the Mudaliar Committee, nor the voucher system which Pakistan is following, nor the currency retention system which Japan, France and various other countries are following. We try to provide the raw materials for the larger production of the generic group of industries, so that those units can utilise them, the machinery and capital goods, so that the various units in this country could modernise themselves and make themselves more and more up-to-date, so that we are not caught up in the vicious circle of obsolescence plaguing the national economy.

These are the broad features of the incentive policy.

Shri Morarka: Why be so apologetic about it?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I am merely trying to explain to those hon. friends who have not got Shri Radhashyam Morarka's understanding of this problem. We are in a wide country. Therefore, we have to explain the situation in the best possible manner, that incentives are inescapable, we are not the only people taking resort to them,— they are absolutely unavoidable for the promotion of exports, for the healthy growth of the national economy and for bringing down the cost of production as well as maintaining best quality production.

There were many products which were imported accounting for more

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than Rs. 20 crores of goods, based on actual users' licensing, without doing any service to the community. For correcting this situation, for switching back, there has to be a healthy link forged between exports and imports, in order to see that production looks up, in order to see that exports are augmented and imports are financed out of export earnings.

Coming to the commodity patterns, yesterday I had occasion to suggest that we are trying to see that the Tea Board functions in a more effective manner. We have taken note of the comments made by Shrimati Akamma Devi, who has been taking keen interest in the small growers who form the bulwark of the plantation industry, whether it is tea, rubber or coffee. Here we have accepted those suggestions. The Tea Board has taken various steps. We have asked the five States to utilise the agency of the co-operative banks of the States to give finance to the small growers, because the Tea Board cannot give finance direct to the small growers. We are awaiting the concurrence of the State Governments, because they have to agree. We are prepared to transfer money as required by the Madras Government, Kerala Government, Assam Government, Bengal Government and Punjab Government. The Tea Board and the Coffee Board will transfer funds so that from the agricultural co-operative banks this assistance can be given to the small growers. That is the best agency. In this respect, the suggestion of Shrimati Akamma Devi has been most welcome. We have taken action. I hope the State Governments will respond soon, because we have got to wait for their concurrence. Without the transferee's consent, we cannot transfer money because they have to deposit it in some bank account and then utilise it..

As regards co-operatives, we have four co-operatives of small growers: another six are on the anvil. If hon. Members coming from different regions want more co-operative factories, we are prepared to establish them; we are prepared to give assistance for the purpose. But the co-operatives have to be run by the co-operators. We can only give financial assistance.

Regarding the three plantation schemes, I have great hope in the hon. Finance Minister. We have been urging that these plantation schemes should have more incentives because a plantation takes 7, 8 or 9 years to yield. I hope sooner or later, something will be done. The question is whether the cost on these new plantation schemes should be debited to capital account or revenue account. We have been urging that in respect of a plantation, even though the land may be new, it is on land which had been fallow that the replantation has to be done. So in the technical definition in the Board of Revenue, they should be given the benefit of the revenue account. That has been the consistent proposal from the tea and other planters. We hope a final decision will be arrived at on this soon.

Some relief on extra production as an incentive in the form of excise rebate would also be considered, and I hope some steps will be taken to give suitable incentives to the planters in this country who are really producing very good wealth by way of foreign exchange.

श्री क० ना० तिवारी (बगहा) : जिस तरह की छूट आप रबड़ और टी के प्लांटेशन पर दे रहे हैं उसी तरह की छूट क्या दूसरे इंडस्ट्रियल गुड्स जैसे जूट वगैरह पर भी आप का देने का विचार है ?

श्री मनभाई शाह : यह तो प्लान्टशन क्रौप की मैं बात कर रहा हूं । उन चीजों में तो कोई टैक्स नहीं है ।

On agriculture there is no tax of that nature. How many agriculturists pay income-tax? We are on a different thing altogether, and I would not like to combine so many things at this juncture. In regard to plantations, certain suggestions were made in the House about revenue and capital account and some extra incentives for larger production of crop, and I assure the House that they would be considered in a most favourable manner.

An Hon. Member: What is the part played by the Agricultural Refinance Corporation?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Again, we should not combine them, because plantation crop is very capital-intensive. The crop comes out after eight or ten years, and there is no return for the whole period, as in the case of tea or coffee or rubber. It is not like rice or wheat or cotton where you get the return the very next year.

Shri Hem Raj made some suggestions. I can assure him that those suggestions are really ours which we sent to the Punjab Government. As soon as the Punjab Government gives their approval, we shall go ahead with them.

Regarding textiles and jute, I have covered them yesterday. We shall keep a watch on the export performance of these industries and see that they contribute materially in future.

It is the good luck of the country that Indian tobacco is finding very wide acceptance in the foreign markets. In the last one year since we put the support prices on exports, exports have gone up by Rs. 4½ crores, from Rs. 19 to 23½ crores.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Chewing tobacco and snuff also?

Shri Manubhai Shah: They are only small components. The main component is Virginia flue-cured and air-cured tobacco. In this connection, I would advise my friends from Andhra that they should carry the message to the growers that what is wanted is the medium and lower grade, not so much the higher grade, because the taste has to be developed the world over. It is not as if we are giving up high grade Virginia, but you cannot just develop a market for the higher grade overnight, when the world demand is greater for low and medium grades. It is true that the higher grade gives them a little more price, but let us go slowly and steadily.

Shri Ranga: It is all a joint product. All the three are together, and only in the grading you get the difference.

Shri Manubhai Shah: But in the process of manufacture, more air-cured should be produced as compared to flue-cured. Therfore, we should concentrate on those products for which we have a speciality. Flue-cured tobacco is made by Rhodesia and various other African countries, and it has to face a dumping situation.

So I can assure my Andhra friends that we are taking all steps to promote larger and larger sales of tobacco. Secondly, as Shri Ranga pointed out, when I go to the Geneva conference, I shall also speak to others. We have already spoken to the East European countries, eight of them which have State trading, to buy more.

We have lifted the trade limit over tobacco and mica so that the East European countries may buy more. If there is any local distress, we have requested the Andhra Government to arrange to advance money through the State Bank and other banks to the

[Shri Manubhai Shah]

growers. Last year, as the House will recall, we had brought a Bill to amend the Warehousing Corporations Act, and brought tobacco and other products of foreign trade under the Act. The idea was that as soon as the Andhra and other State legislatures approve it, Parliament will have the right to empower the Central Government, so that banks can give credit advance against hypothecation of such crop.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy (Kurnool): What about the bringing down of the price of high grade and bringing up the price of low grade?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is a matter of high technicality. If we try to interfere too much with the price mechanism it might not produce the desired result, and we might lose all along the line, but all these matters can be studied.

As the crop is now giving favourable response, we are trying to appoint a small working group representing my Ministry, the Food and Agriculture Ministry, the Planning Commission and the Finance Ministry and the few States concerned with tobacco, to see what type of measures we should undertake next year, so that this type of difficulty of there being a larger crop and not so quick off-take may be properly remedied, as we did in jute operations. I do not know what will be the nature of the operations, but we do want to support the growers of tobacco as much as we can.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is time.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: You cannot restrict him. He as a Minister must make a full statement.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am just reminding him.

Shri Manubhai Shah: So many questions arise when I am speaking..

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: He has to answer all the points.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He may take a few minutes more.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: He is earning a lot of foreign exchange.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Not by talking (*Interruptions*).

श्री बागड़ी (हिसार) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न है। क्या माननीय सदस्य इस तरीके से आपस में बात कर सकते हैं ?

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर। यह कोई व्यवस्था का प्रश्न नहीं है।

श्री त्यागी (देहरादून) : माननीय सदस्य गिरफ्तारी को एवायड करते फिरते हैं।

श्री बागड़ी : त्यागी जी, मैं आपकी तरह जेबकतरा नहीं हूं। (*Interruptions*).

श्री त्यागी : मैं आपकी तरह नाककतरा नहीं हूं। (*Interruptions*).

He calls me a pickpocket. It is unparliamentary.

श्री रामसेवक यादव : माननीय त्यागी जी से मैं निवेदन कर दूं कि माननीय सदस्य का मंशा उन को जेबकतरा कहने का नहीं है। उन का मतलब उन के दल से है।

श्री बागड़ी : डिप्टी स्पीकर सहाब, उन्होंने खुद प्रधान मंत्री की जेब काटी थी। उन्होंने..... (*Interruptions*).

Shri Tyagi: That was our love affair. He has nothing to do with it.

Shri Kapur Singh: The hon. Member did not call Tyagiji in person a pickpocket, but he was referring to

the hon. party which he belongs to as a party of pickpockets.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not add to the dignity of the Member or the House by using such words. Please withdraw.

Shri Kapur Singh: A party can be given a name.

श्री बागड़ी : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, उन्होंने मुझे नाकबतरा कहा । वह भी वापस लेना चाहिये ।

श्री रामसेवक यादव : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय त्यागी जी ने उन को नाक-कतरा बनाया है । हालांकि उन्होंने यह बात गलत कही है, लेकिन मैं उन को इतना बता दूं कि हो सकता है कि हमारे दल में कुछ लोग नाक-कतरे हों, लेकिन वे देशभक्त हैं, देशद्रोही नहीं ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Will you please withdraw those words?

माननीय सदस्य को ये शब्द वापस लेने चाहियें ।

श्री बागड़ी : अच्छा वापस ले लिये ।

श्री त्यागी : मैं भी वापस लेता हूं ।

Shri Manubhai Shah: I was saying that in tobacco there is no bar—sometimes there appears to be some misunderstanding—to growers exporting directly. Export is free. Anybody can directly explore the world market, and need not depend upon any established or traditional exporter. The producers themselves can export. There is no restriction whatsoever. Export is totally free.

In view of the rising good crop of tobacco, we propose to send three or four delegations to different parts of the world, in which we shall take both growers and exporters, so that they can explore the various markets in the world for high, medium and low grade.

In the case of mica also, we have taken a revolutionary step this year and brought about the floor prices for splittings.

Shri Ranga: Those steps have come in the way.

Shri Manubhai Shah: No, they have not come in the way. All haste is not speed. Therefore, let us go properly, and you will see that these steps, if we keep a little patience, will produce at least Rs. 3 to Rs. 4 crores more for the mica miners and producers, because, after all, there are world monopolies in this, importers from foreign countries.

Shri Ranga: You have the monopoly in this.

Shri Manubhai Shah: I am talking here of the few foreign buyers all over the world who have depressed the price of mica, and made it totally uneconomic for us. If, hon. Members go to the mica miners as I have gone several times, they will find that their plight is absolutely pitiable, because the margin that the mica miner gets is so little that he has hardly anything left to give to labour. Therefore, we have brought about reasonable prices, and at those prices transactions are taking place, and if we have a little patience, the mica trade will become much healthier as a result of the steps taken.

Shri Ranga: In the meanwhile, today there is unemployment, huge accumulation of stocks. They do not know what to do, they do not get accommodation from banks.

Shri Manubhai Shah: They are getting accommodation from banks.

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: I do agree that the price fixed by Government is very reasonable, but there is a time lag before the small producers are able to get the market. Will Government do something in between?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is what I am saying. The hon. House and the Members who, naturally, are very much interested in this, should keep a little patience, because the exports from Bihar are Rs. 9 crores, and by and large the Bihar miners are highly satisfied. From Andhra, the figure comes to about Rs. 2 crores in which only a small proportion is from export of mica waste. Some of these friends are in a little distress. It is to these friends that we are trying to advance money. From Rs. 100 per ton, we have brought up the floor prices to about Rs. 200 per ton. The return will come if we wait for some time. You are having a battle against importers who have monopolised the whole trade and deprived your country, looted it left and right over the years. For 30 long years, the price has not gone up. (*Interruptions.*) If we cannot sustain ourselves for some time we will be prostrating at their feet. I want the blessings of the House and the understanding support of every hon. Member.

Shri Ranga: In the meanwhile you should sustain them.

Shri Manubhai Shah: The community should sustain them. We cannot sustain everybody: the philosophy to which the hon. Member subscribes does not want the Government to intervene. We are trying to intervene and we will help as much as practicable.

Shri Ranga: You have fixed a price; you have prevented them from exporting it; you have fixed it at a high level, far above the world price and you go on saying in regard to other commodities that the price is low . . . (*Interruptions.*)

Shrimati Yashoda Reddy: I also come from that area and I may say that these people are very much pleased with the prices. They only want that Government should look into their case.... (*Interruptions.*)

Shri Manubhai Shah: If the hon. Member has details, we can discuss it later on; I cannot take the time of the House on this matter. This matter has been dealt with over the last two years in consultation with foreigners and hon. Member may kindly bring the cases they have and we will try to give them as much help as we can.

Shri Kappen mentioned about rubber. I may assure him that even with the synthetic rubber factory, our total requirements of rubber are not going to be met. Tyre and transport industry requirement is 120,000 tons as against the production of 37200 tons. From 1952 to 1961, rubber was stagnant producing round about 24-25,000 tons. In the last two years the Rubber Board has done good work and production went up to 31,000 tons in 1961-62 and to 37,000 tons in 1962-63. Instead of spending foreign exchange and importing natural rubber from abroad, we established the synthetic rubber factory which consumes only power alcohol, it will save foreign exchange to the tune of about Rs. 5 to 10 crores. New plantations of natural rubber do not come up overnight; we have also no extra land. Even last year we had to import natural rubber to the tune of 35,000 tons....

Shri A. V. Raghavan (Badagara): The import of natural rubber is tied.....

Shri Manubhai Shah: We need the natural rubber and also the synthetic rubber. In addition to this, small quantities of natural rubber will be allowed to be imported from foreign countries. The Ministry concerned is the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals. Actually the manufacturers were not lifting natural rubber: in order to see that both natural rubber any synthetic rubber are lifted we have to compel them to produce receipts that they have lifted so much of indigenous natural rubber and synthetic rubber. We come

in merely to see that not more than the basic minimum foreign exchange is consumed. I can assure the House that the import of natural rubber will be to the least extent possible.

My hon. friend from Mysore mentioned about cardamom. In this very Session I will try to bring in a Bill to set up a statutory cardamom board. I hope the growers and producers will welcome this move. Cardamom price was Rs. 4 per kilo and my friends were not satisfied with it; we have set it at Rs. 12, three times more but the complaint is that it should be Rs. 14 and not Rs. 12. We should not push prices to unrealistic limits. We have to see the nuances of the foreign trade and settle the prices at practicable levels. I can assure the cardamom growers that we have tried to buy and give them support. There was a question from Mr. Hazarika: why cardamom money is shown in the debit account and not in revenue account. It is because the stocks have been purchased in the last three months; when they will be sold in the coming months and get converted into cash by sale it will be shown on the revenue side also.

We are with Mr. Deo in protecting wild life. We were exporting crores worth of pythons, lizard skins and alligator skins and various other things. It is not as if by stopping exports, clandestine killing will go down. Actually today within the country itself, large quantities of these are consumed. Ninety per cent of the peacock feathers . . . .

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is the national bird of India.

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is the national bird and we are all national citizens of this country. We see that peacock feathers are being sold in Gujarat, in Rajasthan and in other parts also; today there is no law to prevent it. Estimate of exports in this commodity is only Rs. 5 lakhs. So, it is not exports that leads to clandestine killing. In fact the West Bengal Chief Minister told me that hundreds of skins of pythons are going away, smuggled to Pakistan and we could not stop it. So, I feel that the wild life board should take a positive attitude and develop these things more. We should give them facilities, loans or anything they want, for tanks, etc. so as to breed more of such wild life.

Shri P. K. Deo: It is for the exporters.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Exporters cannot do this because 90 per cent of the production is consumed locally or smuggled away.

Shri P. K. Deo: They can start breeding farms.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Why not do it at national level through assistance from the Board? They are required for the country's consmption also. Wild life board should try to promote and not prevent. Let not the promotional aspect be neglected. We must stop clandestine killing by all means. (*Interruptions.*)

My request is that export trade should not be taken too lightly and the products for which there can be characteristic growth in tropical climate should be promoted by larger production rather than having a negative approach to it. My request to the Board is to promote these things so that with co-ordination between local consumption and the foreign trade, we can produce more, use more and export more.

There was a question about the Asian Institute in Bangkok. We are part of the ECAFE and we have to make contribution from this country. This is an international institution. Just as we enjoy the establishment of several institutions here, this is one institution which we have to finance. That is why we are paying for it.

[Shri Manubhai Shah]

I do not want to take any more time of the House. I had spoken a great deal yesterday about the World Trade Conference. I have taken note of all the suggestions made by Mr. Peter Alvares and other friends such as Shri Heda, Shri Mathur, Shri Kappen, Shri Bhanja Deo and Shri P. K. Deo and Shri Umanath. I can assure them that the cause of the less developed countries is the cause of India. Even if in one particular thing the Indian interest is being hurt, we are not going to take the line that the Indian interests alone are paramount. What is paramount is that the hungry billions in the under developed countries should get a real chance of their life to have a share in the international cake of world trade so that their economic progress is ensured. Even if some sacrific to the Indian interests is needed we are prepared for this sacrific for the larger good of the world development. I hope with the support we receive from less developed countries, we will do our best to win the Struggle in international trade. Fortunately, the industrialised countries are also coming round and they are also looking to these problems with sympathy. There are no two camps. It is part of the same human family under the UN umbrella, struggling with these problems. I am quite sure that social justice will prevail and world consciouness in favour of the less developed countries will prevail and we shall over the years get the barriers gradually removed so that the doors of foreign trade expand wide in favour of the less developed countries.

Shri P. K. Deo: I want to put a question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Nothing now.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: It is always allowed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I cannot allow another speech.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Not a speech, only a question for clarification.

Shri P. K. Deo: As soon as the quota of 2 million peacock feathers was increased to 5 million, we got reports of indiscriminate killings in Rajasthan and Gujarat, where people would be lynched if they kill a peacock. As soon as the quota...

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the clarification he wants from the Minister?

Shri P. K. Deo: Whether my statement is correct.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Every statement cannot be checked.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If he has any other question he can ask him.

Shri P. K. Deo: As soon as the quota of 100 skins of crocodile and python and lizard was increased to 250, the Reptile Skin Exort Association of Calcutta said, "we can export five thousand skins every year". So, if in this way these exporters will be encouraged, then I cannot understand it, because whatever be the steps that the Board may take, they can never stop the depletion of wild-life in this country.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has not put any question.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Shall I answer it, Sir? Only one sentence. Regarding peacock feathers, the actual export has been less than 1·4 million, against a quota which the Board itself has agreed to, namely 2·5 million. It is for the House to judge.

when the export has been of the order of 40 per cent, whether more killing has been encouraged because of this.

About skins, my hon. friend can go to Calcutta. About five thousand skins are lying there. (*Interruption*). That is what I am trying to point out, that a quota has been issued; the skins are lying there. Therefore, it is not mere export quota which encourages or discourages killing. What is needed perhaps is a more rational policy of promotion of wild life, so that all can gain and wild life is not destroyed but preserved and promoted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shall I put all the Cut Motions to vote?

Dr. M. S. Aney: I wish to withdraw my Cut Motion, No. 21.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Has the hon. Member leave to withdraw his Cut Motion?

Some Hon. Members: Yes.

The Cut Motion was, by leave, withdrawn

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put all the other Cut Motions.

All the other Cut motions were put to vote and negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 64—66 and 131 relating to the Mnistry of International Trade."

The motion was adopted.

[The Motions of Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below —Ed.]

DEMAND NO.64—MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 30,52,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of Ministry of International Trade."

DEMAND NO.65—FOREIGN TRADE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,55,56,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Foreign Trade'.

DEMAND NO.66—OTHER REVENUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,92,88,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of International Trade'.

DEMAND NO. 131—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 55,00.000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defrary the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1956, in resof 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of International Trade'.

14.33 hrs.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will now take up the Demands for Grants under the control of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

I shall first place the Demands before the House.

DEMAND NO. 61—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 14,32,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

DEMAND NO. 62—BROADCASTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. Rs. 5,41,80,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Broadcasting.'

DEMAND NO. 63—OTHER REVENUE EXPENDITURE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. Rs. 4,22,18,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March 1965, in respect of 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

DEMAND NO. 130—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,93,17,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1965, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members wishing to move their cut motions may do so.

Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur): I beg to move:

"That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to encourage classical music and commentary on sports* (3)].

Shri Onkar Lal Berwa (Kotah): I beg to move:

(i) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Procedure regarding giving of newsprint to the newspapers* (4)].

(ii) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Failure to improve the condition of Children Film Society* (5)]

Dr. M. S. Aney: I beg to move:

"That the Demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100,"

[*Use of Hindi regarding commentary on sports* (6)]

Shri Onkar Lal Berwa: I beg to move:

(i) "That the Demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to instal a strong and powerful transmitter on the northern border of India* (9)]

(ii) "That the Demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to give A.I.R. programmes to National School of Drama, Delhi* (10)]

(iii) "That the demand under the head 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to reorient film censor policy* (11)]

(iv) "That the demand under the head 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to give government advertisement to district newspapers* (12)].

(v) "That the demand under the head 'Other Revenue Expenditure of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Discrimination in alloting quota of paper and advertisements to newspapers* (13)]

Shri Pottekkatt (Tellicherry): I beg to move:

(i) "That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced to Re. 1."

[*Discrimination in the matter of giving advertisements to newspapers* (14)]

(ii) "That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced to Re. 1"

[*Denial of dearness, compensatory and house rent allowances and provident fund benefits to staff artists of the A.I.R.* (15)].

Shri **Sivamurthi Swamy** (Koppal): I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need for preparing educational films on the use of small tractors and other machines by Japanese in their method of paddy cultivation* (16)]

Shri Pottekkatt: I beg to move:

(i) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to instal a 50 k.w. transmitter in Calicut* (17)]

(ii) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to introduce daily broadcasts from Kozhikode Radio to serve the people of the Union Territory of Laccadives* (18)]

(iii) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to improve the service conditions of staff artists in the A.I.R.* (19)]

(iv) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to provide opportunities to the Opposition Parties to take part in the A.I.R. programmes* (20)]

[Shri Pattekkati]

(v) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to publish tourist publications including guide books on Kerala* (21)].

(vi) "That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to provide better amenities and suitable accommodation to the employees working in the language units of Akashvani Bhavan, New Delhi.* (22)].

Shri Sivamurthi Swamy: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to provide a more powerful transmitter at Dharwar* (23)].

Shri M. R. Masani (Rajkot): I beg to move:

(i) "That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Failure to establish by Act of Parliament an autonomous Corporation for the running and control of Broadcasting Services.* (24)].

(ii) "That the demand under the head 'Broadcastng' be reduced by Rs. 100."

[*Need to utilize the medium of television for the information, education and entertainment of the people without any expenditure of public funds.* (25)]

श्री रामसेवक यादव (बाराबंकी) मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूं :

(i) "कि 'प्रसारण, शीर्ष के अन्तर्गत मांग को घटा कर १ रुपया कर दिया जाय ।

[आकाशवाणी द्वारा अंग्रेजी भाषा का अनावश्यक और अत्यधिक प्रयोग ।(२६)]

(ii) "कि 'प्रसारण' शीर्ष के अन्तर्गत मांग में १०० रुपये की कटौती कर दी जाय ।

[आकाशवाणी कलाकारों का वेतन । (२७)]

(iii) "कि 'प्रसारण शीर्ष के अन्तर्गत मांग में १०० रुपये की कटौती कर दी जाय ।

(iv) [आकाशवाणी के जरिये प्रतिरक्षा की भावना को जगाने में असमर्थता (२८)]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These Demands and the Cut Motions are now before the House.

Shri Pottekkatt: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I consider it a privilege to initiate this debate on the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. In these days of mass awareness, of people as a whole coming into their own, in the fields of culture and fine arts, this Ministry, with the powerful instruments of mass communication in their hands, is assuming a more and more dynamic role. Sir, if at all, the complaints of men like us is that the Ministry is not sufficiently aware of the potentialities of the great instruments in its hands, or that it is not acting up to it. It is as much routine-ridden, as much unimaginative as any other department of the Government. Probably, there is an inherent contradiction in the establishmet or the authority taking over the role of the guardian of art and culture. I do not say that they should not. But unless high imagination is brought to bear, and policies executed with daring, this Ministry and its

adjuncts would also tend to become just carbon copies of the P.W.D. or the Finance Department.

Sir, rhetoric is not my aim. Take the role of the Ministry, or the AIR and the Information Bureau, following the Chinese aggression. It was the reaction of the bureaucracy. The mass upsurge in India was not reflected through these great media of publicity. An attempt was made to make the best of the existing machinery and existing personnel. And the result was that there was quantity, but not quality. And gradually people got frustrated and bored with these programmes. Were the very best intellectuals, the very best artistes, drawn to the AIR or other media of publicity? Jaded columnists, by and large dependable 'yes' men of the Government, were drawn to the studies. And the result was that the second-class copy that one sees in the newspapers was also put on the AIR!

The very same inhabitions are at the root of our current failure in making an impact on our neighbours in the Far East, South-East Asia and the Middle East. In the immediate post-freedom years, in the hey days of Panchsheel, we made a definite ideological impact on our neighbours. That impact has worn away dangerously. Not because our policies have gone wrong; not becaue we have become less non-aligned; but because we have become less secular. China has committed naked aggression. Pakistan is unleashing furies based on blatant communalism and fanaticism. And yet our neighbours are, by and large, lukewarm towards us. Why? Because we have failed in a dynamic projection of our national personality. The reason is this. We select second-rate men; still more second-rate officials control them. This is particularly so in the External Publicity Division. Edited, censored, touched up, all life, all vigour are taken out from our broadcast and external publicity material. This anaemic stuff fails to move people. And the result is that the very best of our intention are misunderstood or not just carried across properly. Take the case of Pakistani propaganda and its continuous misleading effect on Western listeners. We have an excellent case to put across. First of all, it is a primitive idea—this mixing up of religion and nationality. Secondly, there is no discrimination against Muslims, here. I am coming from Kerala. The Muslims or Moplahs there are progressing in every direction; in trade and commerce, in agriculture, in the professions. Was this picture ever presented powerfully to the western people whose representatives are continuously baiting us in the Security Council? In this case, I particularly accuse the External Publicity men for lethargy and lack of imagination.

This lack of dynamism we have inherited from the British. An utterly colourless copy is a safe copy. "Put it on: I won't be questioned"—that is the attitude of even the highest official. And that clearly is not the way of handling national publicity of a sovereign State facing external aggression and systematic maligning by groups of external powers. And so, we have failed.

Let me now go into a little detail in the matter of A.I.R.'s handling of literary men. Literary men of average ability—let me admit, in some cases even men of slightly above average ability—are taken on contracts as staff artistes. The contracts of course are extended for years. Within six months or one year, this literary man's magic with words and ideas is almost exhausted. As a Government man his contacts with the great currents of life come to a standstill. Then he falls back on his wits and stereotyped dramas; and talks are manufactured almost as a routine. The programes lose their dynamism and they become a concoction of shouts, cries and the usual melodrama. Instead, why not have a coun-

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nuous flow of fresh talents? Instead of long term contracts having a dehydrating effect, and turning out a tribe of Government literary men, why not pay decently and get first-rate men for, say, a few broadcasts?

You hear so much of our desire for national integration. Just an annual gathering or Kavi Sammelan is not the answer to the problem. It should be a continuous process, and not all done in an exhibitionist manner. Draw out a series of talks: you have distinguished men and women who could handle these. May I suggest a few talks, just to give an idea? "The rivers of Andhra Pradesh," the "festivals of Tamilnad," "the natural beauty of Kerala," "the temples of Mysore and Madras", "the festivals of these regions," "the agricultural practices and way of life of the farmers," the national wealth and potentialities of these various regions—relay all these talks in Hindi to the northern Indian regions. Relay similar talks from the north to the south. Have high school versions of these talks, linking every high school in India. Do it systematically by men who feel and react emotionally to subjects like these. Are any of our officials thinking on these lines? Their attitude is: *status quo* and leave us in peace. No. An institution like the AIR requires a continuous dynamic guidance.

All India Radio should have a "National Programme of Short Stories," a "National Programme of Biographies of Great Men and Women of India," and a "National Programme of Poems." These will certainly help towards national integration, as the national programmes of music and drama.

Thinking on these lines, never commit the mistake of thinking that an organisation like the AIR is a 100 per cent handmaid of the Government or the ruling party. That thought is at the back of quite a lot of thinking and planning behind the AIR. Let AIR reflect the great currents of thought and movements in India. Barring outright sedition, open the gates of studies to all representatives of thoughts and opinions. In this respect, the most frigid and rigid radio system in the world is probably the AIR. Even the BBC is not so closed in mind and approach. Most of the Station Directors are haunted by this spectre—"does it go counter to the wishes of the ruling party"? Even news presentation is considerably inhibited by this line of thought. With this attitude, you strike at the very root of liberalism and dynamism. Let it reflect the reality of India and you will see how broadcasts become live in the real sense.

Coming once again to the emergency and the way we handle it, were there any real, emotionally touching broadcasts about the bravery and hardships of our jawans on the frontiers on the Himalayan heights? Were front-rank writers ever taken to the frontiers or battle lines? Journalists were taken all right—but journalists copy is primarily news copy. But a first-rate literary man sees it differently. Have you ever tried it? I doubt.

Now, let me invite your attention to some details. And that relates particularly to the News Division of the AIR. Certain news items are sent for clearance to the External Affairs Ministry and the Home Ministry. News fails to become news if it is announced late. Two, three, vital days are lost through this process. This arrangement caused near chaos durnig the Chinese invasion. Developments announced by the Peking Radio came through the AIR two or three days late. Do you realise the damage caused, particularly in the sphere of external listening? Gradually, a habit would be created: "tune into Peking for latest news." This is a disaster in the long term sense. Evolve a system by which this dangerous delay in announcing news is eliminated. Station a top-ranking

official in the News Services Division who should be authorised to take spot decisions. But do not delay news: it is as much dangerous for AIR as for newspapers.

May I also draw your attention to a point relating to one of the most important regional stations of the AIR? The Calcutta station of the AIR is an architectural horror. The building shuts out God's air and light. A broadcasting station should not be aesthetically so vulgar. It is not a godown: it is a centre of art and culture and the building should be worthy of it.

In this connection, I should also point out the very unsatisfactory and primitive nature of the extensions or "wings" in which the language units in the Akashvani Bhavan in New Delhi are housed. They are very old structures going back to the days of Sir Sultan Ahmed. Even two units are made to work in one small room here. This much of congestion ought to be avoided. The language units deserve better accommodation, better amenities and better treatment.

Now, let me go nearer to my State, Kerala. Kerala has today the weakest transmitters in the whole of India. The one at Trivandrum is 5 kw. and the other at Kozhikode, one kilowatt. Is it necessary to have a more glaring illustration of the neglectful attitude of the Centre towards Kerala? The radio stations in Kerala are not able to reach the four corners of Kerala, let alone hundreds of thousands of Malayalees living all over India and in many parts of the world. It is highly imperative that a 50 kw short wave transmitter is installed immediately in Kerala, and that too at Kozhikode. There is a particular reason for this. You know, Sir, the Laccadive Islands, which is a Union territory, are nearer to Calicut on the mainland. It is not only backward but it is cut off from the mainland for several months in a year, particularly during the rainy season. There are no newspapers there, nor can they be sent. The only contact with the rest of the world is through radio. If a 50 kw. transmitter is installed at Kozhikode, good listening in the Laccadives could be ensured. This will also serve a very large number of Malayalees living in the big cities in India as well as the Malayalees living in the western gulf areas, the middle east Africa, Ceylon, Malaya and Indonesia, who have no access to any Malayalam programme of the AIR.

The external services of the AIR should also start broadcasting Malayalam programmes from Delhi. The Government may be interested to know that even the Singapore and Colombo radios show their silicitude for Malayalam by broadcasting programmes in this language. All this is no luxury, Sir. These are rights in modern days.

Now, I want to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to the very genuine grievances of a section of employees in the AIR, the staff artistes, as they are called. I cannot understand why translators and announcers doing virtually the same work of sub-editors should be kept as staff artistes for years and years. There is absolutely no reason why they should not be made permanent Government servants. They are different from pure literary men who are also taken as staff artistes. In their cases other considerations might weigh. But translators and announcers need not be staff artistes. They have all the disadvantages of the Government service in the sense of discipline and restrictions, without the compensating advantages. Their emoluments are poor, their increments are not secure through any regulation or guarantees and after 20 or more years of service, they will have to retire with a small gratuity. They should not be discriminated against in comparison with sub-editors and others, with whom they are on par in the matter of work.

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Poets, authors and composers should be placed as a separate class in the AIR, on a permanent list to be called occassionally. Translators, newsreaders, etc. should be taken as regular Government servants in the AIR.

Then a few words on the Advisory Committees of the AIR. These committees have to play an effective siderole. But generally these are becoming lifeless bodies, as these committees are constituted on the whims and fancies of the respective Station Directors. The Members are just "Yes" men under the control of these officials, who have patronage to offer. It is a kind of a close circle, on whom the Station Directors could depend upon. Since it is a picked body, it ceases to be an effective body. Moreover, only persons favourable to the ruling party are admitted into these committees. These committees should be broad-based and made more representative.

Even in the matter of assigning talks in the AIR, discriminations are evident. MLAs and MPs of the Opposition—who are also elected representatives of the people—are rarely given a chance to talk over the AIR. Why not give Members of Parliament greater participation in the programmes of talks over the AIR? Our friend here Vizzy, the Maharajkumar of Vizianagaram, gives pleasant commentaries on cricket test matches. There are among MPs—and particularly among non-Congress MPs—quite a number of people who have important and interesting things to say and a good voice in which to say it. Why keep them at arm's length and bring down broadcasting standards?

Now let me draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the Government publicity. The Government publicity is lop-sided, English-oriented and wasteful. All the media units of the I&B Ministry focus their attention mainly on publicity in English, forgetting the fact that the majority of the Indian people do not understand the English language and if the publicity is meant for the Indian people, it should be mainly done through the Indian languages. The Indian Language Units of the News Service Division are completely neglected and are staffed by comparatively junior people. There should be Editors and Assistant Editors in all Indian language units, as in the case of Hindi, and the newsreaders should not be expected to translate as is done now.

Instead of strengthening the language units, I find that the number of their editorial posts has been reduced, and the number of Deputy Directors of News has been raised from 1 to 5. It is ridiculous to know that they are finding it hard to find work for these new Deputy Directors.

In the Publications Divisions also, the Indian languages, except Hindi and Urdu, are absolutely neglected. They are relegated to the back benches. All the good publications are in English and Hindi only. Other Indian nationalities in the country are also entitled to read about the art, culture, architecture, scientific and technological developments, etc. of this country. Publications like *'The Collected Speeches of Jawaharlal Nehru, Occasional Speeches and Writings of Dr. Radhakrishnan, Temple Architecture in North and South India,* etc. should be brought out in other Indian languages also.

Shri Ranga: What about the speeches of the leaders of the Opposition? They are not published at all.

Shri Pottekkatt: Magazines like *Ajkal* should also be published in other languages.

There are no Programme Journals of the AIR in Marathi, Kannada and Malayalam. These are the only languages in which there are no Programme Journals of the AIR. These also should be brought out.

While there are more than ten Editors in English in the Publications Division, it passes one's comprehension why there is not even an Editor in any Indian language, except perhaps in Hindi and Urdu. This is a deplorable situation.

Looking through the publicity materials issued by the PIB, the Publications Division and the DAVP, it is found that there is a lot of overlapping and superfluity. This can be well avoided if there is coordination at the top echelons of administration. I suggest that, the News Service Division of the AIR, the Press Information Bureau, the Publications Division and the DAVP be brought under one Director-General of Publicity and Information, and all the Indian language publicity units in the various divisions be brought under Chief Editors, each language having one Chief Editor, two Editors and three or four Assistant Editors. The publicity and publications in these languages should be also increased at least ten-fold.

While the PIB has more than one Regional Offices in most of the States, Kerala, which has more than 32 dailies has got only one PIB office at Ernakulam and one Assistant Information Officer. This number should be increased at least to three; i.e. apart from the Ernakulam office, two more should be opened one at Trivandrum and the other at Kozhikode to effectively cater to the daily newspapers and AIR stations.

Talking of national integration, may I suggest one idea to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting? We are supposed to have fairly liberal funds for performances like this. But the question is, how well they are utilised. Now, why not bring out books on all the fourteen States of India and make them availale in the different States? Not just Tourist's Guide Books, but books that would at once be readable and would give insight into the genius, greatness and special features of those States. They should be good enough and comprehensive enough to be made into textbooks for High Schools and even colleges. I will even suggest a few chapter-headings just to make it clear: "A short Historical Background", "Physical Features and Climate", "The Peoples or the various communities, farmers and others", "Crops and Farming Practices", "Industries", "Arts and Culture", "Festivals", "The Ways of Life", etc. Enlist the services of first-class writers and illustrate them with good photos. They will become excellent source material, not only for students but for all laymen, educationists and others.

Sir, may I now invite your attention to the senseless manner in which the films are censored, particularly the foreign films. Films are works of art. Cut it from the angle of an ascetic, and they cease to be works of art. *Brahmacharis* can remain at home. A kissing scene or an emotionally high-pitched scene will not bring down our society. But they would be very relevant in a film in the creative art sense. And this is India, the home of superb art as represented by the exquisite creations in Ajanta, Ellora, Konark and Khajuraho.

Now let me invite your attention to a particulr incident that showed up the authorities in their most partisan colour. There was absolutely no reason to withdraw the documentary on the Great March in the Capital. It was a colossal show and the Film Unit of the Ministry showed their excellent news sense in giving it the importance it deserved. But the administrative action was wrong. And I am sorry to say even the Prime Minister went wrong in it. Events are events. If you do not like it, for that reason, they do not cease to be events of importance. Such totalitarian tendencies should be curbed in the begining itself. They are against our traditions.

In this context, may I ask the hon. Minister what happened to the VOA

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deal? Incidentally, Sir, may I point out it was one of the queerest things to happen in a sovereign State.

Sir, let me close now, Despite all these criticisms, as a literary man and as a Member of Parliament, my services are always at the disposal of the Ministry.

15.00 hrs.

Shri M. R. Masani: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to support the two cut motions which I have moved, one to discuss the "failure to establish by Act of Parliament an autonomous Corporation for the running and control of Broadcasting Services" and the other to discuss the "need to utilise the medium of television for the information, education and entertainment of the people without any expenditure of public funds".

To start with the radio, this is nothing new that I am urging. My hon. friend's predecessor, Dr. Keskar, I believe as far back as 1952, assured the House that they would come forward with a Bill under which this change would be made. Twelve years have passed and this House is entitled to ask how much longer we are to wait before such a Bill is brought before this House. Even today, officials of the service are asked to sign a declaration saying that, as and when AIR is transformed into an autonomous statutory corporation, they will agree to the change in their conditions of service, and so on. So, I hope that it is not very long before we have this change. But, since there has been no sign of this change coming, I think it is important that the points that necessitate or warrant this change should be stressed before this House.

The only argument that I have heard against the establishment of a corporation is a financial one. The argument is that since All India Radio, owing to the small number of licences in regard to radio sets in the country, is making a loss and Government have to subsidise broadcasting services, therefore, it would be premature to establish a corporation; So long as Government gives something to AIR, it should remain a departmentally run service.

Now, thre are two fallacies in this argument. The first fallacy is that so long as something is subsidised you must control it departmentally. In England, His Majesty's or Her Majesty's Government subsidise every year the external or foreign services of the BBC. But that is not considered a reason for interfering in the running of this service. And our own Government here help many autonomous organisations, institutions and statutory corporations which are dependent on Government support and nobody argues that, therefore, they should not be run on autonomous lines.

The second fallacy is in regard to faulty arithmetic. Broadcasting does not make a loss in this country; it makes a profit. Take the last available year's figures, 1962-63. The expenditure of AIR was Rs. 5·70 crores and income from licence fee was Rs. 4·89 crores. With miscellaneous receipts, the income of AIR came to Rs. 4·93 crores. Therefore, it is argued that there is a loss of Rs. 76 lakhs. But there is an important item which is amazingly overlooked, and that is the customs duty recovered on radio sets imported to India, on which licence fee is being charged for listening to AIR. This income from customs duty on imported radio sets comes to Rs. 1·47 crores. Therefore, the total revenue to Government from broadcasting services comes to Rs. 6·40 crores, as against an expenditure of Rs. 5·70 crores, which means a profit of Rs 67 16 000 odd. Therefore, this financial argument is lacking in substance.

There are two major reasons on the other hand, why this change is imperative and should be made. One is the

quality of the services. I do not want to be misunderstood, I think there are many good things about our radio service, but there is no doubt that in regard to response to public needs, public tastes, the flexibility and the spirit of service that should be there can never be there in a Government service. If I may just quote a recent survey made in one of the local newspapers, and this is representative of many things that have been said over the last few years, here is something from a newspaper of March 15, which I happen to have with me. The newspaper says:

> "We are served with interminable talks on what Government proposes to do or what it wants us to do. When progress is reported it is in terms of figures and totals which can make sense, if it does, only to the tabulators of the Planning Commission."

It further says:

> "Treatment apart, the choice of subjects often shows an appalling remoteness from the current context of the listeners' lives."

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): Which is that newspaper?

Shri M. R. Masani: I am quoting from a newspaper of March 15.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: Which paper?

Shri M. R. Masani: *The Statesman.*

> "How many listeners in India feel that the situation in Angola (Wednesday's Focus) or China's treaty obligations under international law (talk in the National Programme by G. S. Pathak) is a problem in which they are vitally involved or even genuinely interested?"

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Quote the remarks about Pathak also.

Shri M. R. Masani: No, I will not read those remarks which are personal.

> "....the occasion when Parliament can yield good listening material are sadly missed. I do not remember having heard any independent discussion of the Budget, although no programme would have evoked greater interest on the Budget eveing or over the next few days than discussions by both experts and laymen on what they thought of the Finance Minister's proposals."

> "....Which brings me to my last point: the utter unreality of the rural programme."

One can go on quoting, but I think this is a fair sample of what the people feel. And I say it is no reflection on the AIR; it is a reflection on being a government department which has all the rigidities and lack of response that are inherent in Government departments.

The second objection is the more important one; and that is the objection of interference of a political nature or political influence. Here I would like to pay my tribute to the fact that, by and large, the officials who have over the last fifteen years and are today running the AIR have done so in a fair, honest and unbiassed manner. I think they have tried, by and large, individuals apart, to hold the scales even, not to get involved. But the same cannot be said, I am afraid, of all politicians who have been in office.

A particularly shocking example came to light only a few months ago in Orissa. Shri B. Patnayak, when he was the Chief Minister, himself volunteered to broadcast a talk on the food situation in Orissa sometime in May last year. When the script was submitted, the Programme Executive, I understand, objected to the talk on two grounds—one was that it lacked objectively and the other that it involved needless political controversy. This objection was in regard to an

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attack made on Opposition parties in Orissa and these are the words of Shri Patnayak, which were quoted later in the press:

> "I have of late noticed that some of our political colleagues belonging to the Opposition camps have started a tirade against the Government on the food front. I would like to ask them one question. Does villifying the Government with half truths or untruths serve the cause of the people?....I have to caution all that Government would come down with heavy hands on all those who choose to serve their own interests at the cost of the Nation."

Now, apart from the fact that this reference "to serve their own interests at the cost of the Nation" comes from the quarter it did, which is amusing, the fact remains that Shri Patnayak, the Chief Minister was clearly misusing his position. The Programme Executive after some hours of arguing was over-borne, he was intimidated by what may be called the revolutionary dynamism of Shri Patnayak, the new type of Commissar, and in the end, the talk was allowed to be broadcast. Well, newspapers in Orissa, the *Eastern Times* of 17th May and 1st June and the *Praja Tantra* which I understand are owned by Congressmen and not by the members of Opposition parties, drew attention to this lapse.

My hon. friend, Shri Surendranath Dwivedy, who is not here now, I understand, wrote to AIR and Government for permission to reply to Shri Patnayak. I think this House will agree that it would have been only fair if he had been given a chance to reply. At this stage, however, the non-controversial clause came into operation and Shri Dwivedy was not given permission to reply. Now, what happened? Was Shri Patnayak punished? Was he removed from service for intimidating a poor Junior Executive or for misusing authority? No, Sir. He was not punished.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra (Nominated—Jammu and Kashmir): He has been Kamarajed.

Shri M. R. Masani: But somebody else was punished, and that was the poor little Programme Executive. He was punished for yielding to the Chief Minister's pressure and not standing up to him. Now, this is not fair to the officials of a service like this, to be in a vulnerable position and find themselves unable to resist. If this had been an autonomous corporation like the BBC, such an incident could never have happened, and that is why it is important that this kind of abuse, even though it is occasional—I agree it is occasional; I do not think the members of the ruling party are using the radio in a totally biased sense—is put an end to at the earliest possible moment.

I was amused to hear from the Communist Benches a reference to AIR being the most rigid broadcasting system in the world. I wonder if my hon. friend has ever tried to write a letter to Radio Moscow, asking them not to be complete stooges of the dictatorship of the Communist Party?

There is no question of comparing All India Radio with Radio Moscow. All India Radio tries to do its job in a difficult situation where the conditions are not fairly laid down, while Moscow Radio is just a mouthpiece of a dictatorship. While I do not want to overstate the case, I do think that there are dangers which should be stopped.

Then there is the boredom of having to listen often to the statements and views of those in authority. They also are entitled to their point of view, but, if I may say so, it is often overdone. The other day I happened to look at one of these television programmes put out from Delhi. It is called a 'Current Affairs' talk. This was about four or five days ago. In about four to five minutes, I had to go through the process of seeing the

faces of at least five Cabinet Ministers—the Prime Minister, Shri Chavan, Shri Nanda, Shri Chagla and Shri Sadiq. I feel that a film which within five minutes has to drag in five Cabinet Ministers on a talk on current affairs certainly shows an amount of loading, and I do not blame people if they get bored with the same faces and the same voices.

It is only in the Communist countries—I think, there are very few exceptions outside the Communist world—where the radio service is a monopoly of the Government. Mostly in free and democratic countries thre are two varieties of services. One is like America where broadcasting is commercialised, where different firms compete and there is no governmental organisation at all. On the other hand, there is a middle path which is followed by many other countries. Britain is one of them with the BBC. Japan has the NHK, an autonomous corporation like the BBC, France has RDF, and in Australia there are a statutory corporation and private companies competing on a radio. There are many models. I am not being rigid about this model or that, but I do hope that the hon. Minister will, during his tenure of office, bring before us and long a Bill which will set up an autonomous corporation under the general supervision of Government and Parliament.

Sometimes it is said that parliamentary control will be eliminated. That is not so. The BBC is discussed in Parliament every few weeks. Something or the other comes up on a matter of policy. Then, every few years there is a proper debate when the licence of the BBC expires and the character has to be reviewed. So, the House of Commons has not washed its hands of the BBC. It does try to influence the policy of the BBC; but it does not interfere with the administration of the BBC. This is important. I do hope that the hon. Minister will now move on to this next step forward in the development of broadcasting in our country. If he does so, he will have the rare distinction of being the first Cabinet Minister who will have voluntarily parted with authority which is at present in his hands. It will be a great feather in his cap.

Now I come to television. This country is 85 per cent illiterate or thereabouts. In a country which is so little literate, audio-visual methods of communication and education are of the greatest value and importance. An illiterate man cannot read or write but he can see and hear. If you are going to carry information, education and amusement to our people, it is through the eye and the ear that we will be able to bring it quickest. Even for creating literacy, television is of the greatest importance. It is being used in the south of Italy and other countries to spread the knowledge of ABC and the three Rs.

Television today is a clean slate on which we can write as we will. It is being introduced even in the most backward and the smallest of countries of Asia and Africa. On a recent visit to the Far East, I saw it at work not only in Japan, where it is a major industry, but also in little Taiwan, the Republic of China, Hong Kong and even a backward country by our standards and a small country like Thailand. Today Iran, Pakistan, Nigeria, Ghana and Kenya either have television systems or are about to have them in the next few weeks or months. Why should a country like India lag behind?

In America, which of course is advanced, it is anticipated that by 1970 1½ per cent of the total expenditure on education in the United States will be used for audio-visual aids like television. In England there are two-way links being established between science and engineering laboratories of Cambridge, London and other universities.

In Morocco, an illiterate country like ours, important educational ex-

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periments on television are taking place. In each village radio and television programmes are being followed by inhabitants.

In Rhodesia, educational television started in September 1961.

In Taiwan it is two years old. They started with 50 sets two years ago; today there are 20,000 receivers in the northern part of the island alone. The cost of a television set in Taiwan is $125 or between Rs. 500 and Rs. 600. I am told that in Egypt and other countries also the cost has been brought down to about Rs. 500. It is expensive for the poorest man but it is within the reach of our middle classes. In the villages and among the poorer people there can be community sets, institutional sets, reading room sets, school sets and so on. So, it is not a rich man's luxury; it is becoming a common man's need.

In the Report of the Ministry on page 24 there is half a page about what is sought to be done. I do not want to depricate what is sought to be done. Something is being done in Delhi and they say that something should be done in Bombay at the cost of Rs. 40 lakhs. But why Bombay alone? It is my city and I will be glad if it comes there. But I do not think that it is a problem of Delhi and Bombay alone; it is a problem of our villages and of the whole country. I think this start of trying to pump public money into this is a false start. I think this is not the way we are going to get anywhere.

Then I will be told: 'How will you make it nationwide when we are such a poor country? We cannot afford it?' It is true, we cannot afford it. If we are going to use public revenues, my own party will be opposed to using the public money, the taxpayers's money, on television when undoubtedly there are higher priorities. But there is a way by which India can have television throughout the country without a single rupee of the taxpayer being spent. That way has been tried elsewhere and has not been found wanting. That method is for time on television to be sold to those who have a message to convey or goods to sell. Such people will then pay by sponsoring programmes and by that payment they will maintain all the apparatus, the staff and the stations by which television is put across.

There are two objections that are raised to such television. One is that the programmes are cheap and vulgar and the other is that they are constantly interrupted by advertisements. This is not true as I shall proceed to show.

Let me mention how it works in Britain where I happen to have the privileges of being a personal friend from college days of the Director General of the Independent Television Authority, Sir Robert Fraser, who was with me in college when I was in London as a student. Through him I have come to keep in touch every two or three years with the progress that this institution is making. In Britain there are two television services, the BBC and the ITV or ITA. The BBC runs its own television and the Independent Television Authority has its own system. They compete and by competing they are creating a healthy climate where both sides improve.

The Independent Television Authority was set up by an Act of Parliament in 1954. The Authority is responsible for operating television services as a public service on a self-financing basis. It establishes stations, it selects and appoints programme companies who compete to sell programmes to ITV and ITV is able to choose between the programme companies judging them by the high standards of the programmes. These companies go to the manufacturer of goods or services and get these manufacturers to sponsor programmes pre-

pared by the programme company. The company that makes soap or radio sets is not allowed to put across its commercial advertisement. It is only allowed to sponsor a play, a story, a talk, a debate, a discussion, some feature of cultural or other value or a concert, and the company that advertises gets the value or prestige of having its name on that programme to show that such-and-such a company is enlightened enough to give this great pleasure or treat to the seeing public.

It is true that in some countries the programme is interrupted occasionally to mention the name of the sponsor or the goods that he sells; but that also is regulated. In England, for instance, not more than six or seven minutes are allowed for commercial sponsorship in an hour's worth of a cultural programme. So, these evils are clipped.

The Act under which the ITA was created lays down that the standard of programmes shall be high, that there will be supervision and parliamentary interest in the programmes, and there are clauses in the Act which guarantee that the ITA will maintain high standards of programmes.

Similarly, it is obligatory that competition should be maintained. No one company can be given a monopoly and today there are half a dozen companies in England who are given the right to compete for time on ITV. By all these methods a very high standard has been maintained. Here is a book which if hon. Members will see, they will realise what an amount of high level cultural and artistic stuff is put across by ITV. This is the same model that is being followed in Malaya, Japan, Ghana, Nigeria and Kenya. None of these countries have felt that they are being corrupted by allowing programmes to be sponsored by those who are interested in doing so. This experience in England which has maintained a high standard is something which we may well emulate. The only thing is that we should not be irrational enough to fear or suspect everything that makes a profit! The I.T.A. has made a very good profit. Let me show what it does for the revenues of Britain. The I.T.A. has made, since its creation, £26 million as income. It has spent on its services £10.5 million; it has paid £7½ million as tax to Government and on top of it it has given £1 million to the public exchequer as contribution, just as the Railways make a contribution to the general revenues. So, here is Britain, which has given its people the benefit of television without any cost to the public, paying taxes and giving a million pound contribution and on top of it paying for its services. What possible objection can there be to such a system? I believe that if we look at this dispassionately, there can be no possible objection.

I was very glad to see a few days ago in the *Hindustan Times* a report that the hon. Minister himself has said that—

> "If India must have television in the near future, it will have to be sponsored on a commercial basis. The present shortage of foreign exchange precludes television programme being put on any other basis."

I think the hon. Minister has undoubtedly got the right end of the stick there. I wish him success in pursuing his enquiries and research in this matter and I do hope that he will leave a permanent legacy in this country.

Sir, if I may say so, he is the first Minister of this Ministry, since the late Sardar Patel ran this Ministry, who has got political influence and prestige behind him. I hope he will use that political influence and prestige and leave behind the monument of a television service on an independent autonomous and dignified besis.

Shri Khadilkar (Khed): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, on rare occasions I agree with my hon. friend

[Shri Khadilkar]

Mr. Masani. On this occasion I do agree with some of his criticism and some of his suggestions. But at the same time I would like to utter a word of caution because he has pleaded for a commercialised television service in this country and I feel at the present stage of development, if we go after a type of television civilisation which reflects the high-speed life in the West, with all its consequences, it would not only be a waste but, perhaps, I am afraid it will have a deleterious effect on the morale of the people. Therefore, so far as his last suggestion is concerned, I do not endorse what he said, that is, our television service should be commercialised, and I have some reasons for it. This Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has a very dynamic role to play in this country.

Shri Kashi Ram Gupta (Alwar): You do not endorse the praise of the hon. Minister?

Shri Khadilkar: Yes, I do. I am happy that the Chief Whip who has been mainly concerned with the Parliamentary Affairs has taken charge of this Ministry. He has maintained certain discipline, dignity and decorum of the House and now he has taken charge of, if I may say so, a new empire with about 12 or 13 departments. Let us see what dynamism he brings to all these departments and the Ministry concerned. Unfortunately, in this country, this is the only instrument or the only medium at the disposal of the Government which can reach the illiterate and the literate masses and explain the major objectives of our policy. Unfortunately, the other medium that is open now, that is, the newspaper industry has become a monopoly, and in this country, particularly when the newspaper industry has become a monopoly, it is the responsibility of this Ministry, in my opinion, to see that the masses are enlightened. It is not simply an instrument of recreation. It is an instrument of education, enlightenment and of imparting scientific information to the illiterate masses and the peasantry that lives in villages so that they would come up and catch up with the modern technique. Here, I would like to quote a few sentences from a survey carried on in one of the reports by the Conservative Political Centre in London in 1960. They have emphasized the role of radio in the literate as well as the illiterate society which is trying to keep up the democratic superstructure. I will quote only a small portion of it:

> "Broadcasting is the nation's greatest unifying communications force in peace or war. Without doubt radio is going to make an ever larger impact on the lives of people in the emergent countries. Among literate nations, its influence has proved enormous, among nations with a high proportion of illiteracy it will be greater still."

This survey has rightly pointed out that the responsibility or the role of this Ministry should be emphasized from this angle as to how with this instrument at your disposal you are helping the forces of integration and unity in this country, how you are repelling the propaganda of our enemy, and how you are educating the masses with the new technique in the understanding of the processes of democracies that we are following. If that is done, it will perhaps strengthen the basis of democracy. Therefore, as I said, it is a big role and the Minister has a big responsibility. So far, it was a sort of a subordinate Ministry and unfortunately it was not taken in that spirit that it has a big role to play because, as I said, the newspaper industry in this country is a monopoly. Even from the present report if we look at the pattern of ownership we can realise how it is being controlled. This is what the report says:

> "130 dailies controlled by chain groups and multiple units claim

65.9 per cent of the total circulation of dailies in India. 9 big English dailies controlled by chain groups of multiple units claim 76.9 per cent of the total circulation of English dailies."

From these figures it is very clear how the whole apparatus of the press which is being controlled by the monopoly is being utilised.

15.28 hrs.

(SHRIMATI RENU CHAKRAVARTTY *in the Chair*)

Some thought was given to this aspect of the emerging monopolies of the press when the Press Commission discussed this problem. I would like to quote something from the Press Commission's Report. This is a menace to our democratic growth, to our socialist objective because as Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru recently pointed out while addressing the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the *National Herald* on September, 29, 1963:

"A few newspapers are dominated by capitalists who promote their own interests, which often place hurdles in the correct execution of Government programmes. Some of the newspapers are rich and have a large circulation. But making profits should not be the ultimate aim."

The same thing has more or less been observed by the Press Commission in their report. They have stated:

"It is, perhaps, inevitable that a paper that is owned by businessmen or industrialists, whether directly or through the control of joint-stock companies, should adopt editorial policies which advance directly or indirectly the interests of the business community as a whole, or the particular business interests or commitments of the proprietors.".

With this observation, they have made a projection and they have made a suggestion. Unfortunately, the suggestion regarding the Press Council, made in 1954, is still being debated, or was perhaps debated upon in the other House, and it is yet to take shape, because the Bill that was introduced in all its aspects does not really meet the needs of the present situation. That is the criticism offered. But, as the Press Commission had observed:

"It shall be the responsibility of the Press Council to review at the end of five years all the consequences of newspaper ownership in the light of circumstances then existing...."

—nearly twelve years have passed since then—

"....including an examination of the effectiveness of the association of employees with the ownership. The inquiry will also cover the manner in which the Trust form of management or employee-ownership should be extended to other units of the Press.".

Off and on, we refer to Gandhiji's teachings. I do not know what thought has been given to the trusteeship idea that was propounded by Gandhiji in all walks of life including industry. But this is a field where ownership and the editorial control could be separated, and there are some good examples in this regard. For, when this matter was raised, recently, a paper like *The Hindustan Times*, I was pleasantly surprised, had very favourably commented on it. Just before that, if I mistake not, a paper that was formerly owned by Britishers had a new Indo-British joint ownership, and to some extent, they have evolved a new system of trusteeship by inviting distinguished persons to insulate the editorial control from management and ownership. Some such thing deserves to be done. *The Hindustan Times* has spelt out what has been done, and I would

[Shri Khadilkar]

like to quote a small portion of what it has stated. It has stated that:

> "If a change in newspaper ownership in today's conditions is not practical, new thinking could usefully turn to other methods of achieving the results mentioned by Mr. Nehru. In Great Britain, for instance, the separation of ownership and responsibility for editorial conduct has been adopted successfully in several newspapers. There is no reason why the pattern cannot be followed here by creating trusts charged with the special function of keeping an eye on editorial policy and insulating the editor and the editorial staff from the influence of the proprietors.".

Therefore, I would urge that the new Minister who has recently taken charge of this Ministry may look into this matter and hasten and finalise this Bill regarding the Press Council and try to introduce the trust type of ownership and insulate ownership from editorial control.

I would now come to the aspect of the radio.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member should try to conclude in two minutes.

Shri Khadilkar: I would request you to give me a little more time. I am the first speaker from my party, and, therefore, I would request you to give me a little more time.

Mr. Chairman: I was told that the Congress Party Members could get only fifteen minutes each.

Shri Sham Lal Saraf (Nominated—Jammu and Kashmir): You can deduct the extra time taken by him from the time that would be available to the other Members of the party.

Shri Khadilkar: I shall try and finish as early as possible.

Mr. Chairman: The Minister and the Chief Whip are the same.

Shri Khadilkar: There is another aspect which is very important. We have advanced criticism in this House regarding publicity, external as well as internal. On this aspect I would like to say something, because it is a matter of concern for all of us, and we have sometimes expressed our misgivings about how it is being handled at the present juncture.

For instance, there was no powerful transmitter to counteract Chinese propaganda. The transmission power of China—I am quoting from memory—is about 30,000 k.w. in all, whereas ours is hardly 16,000 k.w. or so, which is just about half of what China has. When we did not have the transmitter, and while we were trying to counteract the Chinese propaganda and introduce a new feature called 'India and the Dargon'—now, fortunately, it has been stopped—sometimes, one would wonder whether the propaganda was directed against China or against Indian advance. I have no time; otherwise, I could have pointed out the actual instances; those responsible should be dealt with properly. It is not a question now of who entered into the Voice of America deal; that was a shabby deal; it is good that it has been given up, because no self-respecting nation and no newly independent country in this part of the globe could allow some other nation's voice to beam out from its territory and try to influence our neighbours. On the contrary, there would be a big wall of prejudice raised against us if we had allowed that deal.

Dr. M. S. Aney: Who committed that first mistake?

Shri Khadilkar: I shall leave it to the hon. Minister to correct that mistake. I shall not take it up on myself. But when the propaganda is carried on, there is one thing which should

be borne in mind. If the officers responsible do not keep in mind the objectives for which the propaganda is directed, it is no use; it is not a question that we are at the present juncture having some differences with China and China is carrying on propaganda against us and it should be counteracted, but at the same time, attempts should be made to see that the counteracting will not have a boomerang effect on our domestic propaganda or propaganda among other nations, especially the newly independent countries of South Asia, Africa or the Arab world. That caution also should be kept in mind.

I would now like to say a word about the Press Trust of India. It has been pointed out by a former Director of News Services of AIR in one of his articles as follows:

> "Attainment of independence, however, gave the broadcasts a precise direction. From that day onward they could reflect what India stood for . . . . as the two main contending political ideologies began to dominate international politics, the task of giving the listener an accurate account of world developments became more difficult. All India Radio could obtain no assistance from any news sources of its own, for instance, from its own correspondents, there were none abroad."

We have suffered because AIR is not maintaining at the nerve-centres, at least at the important nerve-centres of the world, well-qualified correspondents, and, therefore, we were misled regarding the Congo, as indeed we are now misled regarding so many happenings in Africa. The Press Trust of India is linked with Reuters. Reuters news is coloured from the Commonwealth point of view. Therefore, for financial reasons, and for reasons of personnel, if there are shortages of personnel, I would make the suggestion that the Press Trust of India and All India Radio should jointly cater to the news that is to be broadcast here; and at the same time, instead of getting news from just one source, namely the Commonwealth source why should we not have news from other sources also, as for instance, the Russian source, such as *The Tass* as well as some other sources from America so that with a little discernment and a little circumspection, we can evaluate the news that is available and give it back to the Indian people? That would be more in keeping with the necessity of the times and it will be more objective also. Some such mechanism has got to be worked out. Otherwise, we shall suffer not only inside but outside.

Recently, I happened to meet an important personality from East Africa and he said that they depended sometimes for news from India but they later on discovered that what was given to them was a concoction which had been dribbled out from the Reuters' news and therefore they were misled. These things should be avoided.

I would say just one word about our publicity, internal as well as external. The publicity for the Ministry of External Affairs within India was looked after by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, till 1958, on the same basis as that for the other Ministries of the Government of India. I do not know why the bifurcation took place. Now, what are its consequences? Obviously, there is no co-ordination. Our external politics is a projection of internal policy, and when we are trying to reach our own people, the only source from which it should emanate is All India Radio. So, they should have some sort of liaison with the External Affairs Ministry and try to get the news and should circulate it or give it on the air. That would be a better arrangement. But that co-ordination is completely lacking.

Regarding sending out delegations or delegations coming from the foreign press, recently a delegation from Nigeria came. I do not know

[Shri Khadilkar]

what the External Affairs Ministry thinks about it. But they had not the courtesy, unfortunately, to allow them or arrange for, an interview with the Minister of Information and Broadcasting. They were very eager to meet him. They made a complaint.

I do not know whether they had an interview with him later. They felt that the main Ministry concerned with the press, publicity and the radio is kept in the background and some bureaucrat in the External Affairs Ministry is supposed to give out the news which is many a time cut off from the reality of the situation.

I make this statement because recently in his book *The Flying Troika*, Shri K. P. S. Menon, formerly our distinguished Ambassador to Russia, has stated that our relations with our neighbours were bedevilled by the bureaucrats in the External Affairs Ministry. Taking this into account, it is for the Minister of Information and Broadcasting to assert in what form news should be given, how it should be co-ordinated. These essential things must be taken into consideration and the former position restored.

One word more.....

Mr. Chairman: In that case, time will correspondingly be cut from the time of Shri Inder J. Malhotra.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: Then I would like to object. I am not prepared to have a deduction from my time.

Mr. Chairman: It is from the time allotted to the Congress Party Members.

Shri Khadilkar: The National programme conducted nowadays, on every Saturday, is degenerating. I have received complaints. One is a very genuine complaint. Well-known South Indian musicians are brought to Delhi paying all the allowances and other things and their programmes are broadcast alive. But Hindustani musicians are discriminated against. Someone is sent and their music is recorded and played back here. So, it lacks the vitality and the living force behind it; it is just recorded music played in the name of the National Programme.

One word more and I conclude. I am sure the present Minister can exercise his authority. His empire is bulging out, as every Ministry is doing. It is sprawling. If there is stagnation, if there is soullessness, if there is purposelessness, if there are some flatterers and bureaucrats in his Ministry, he should crack the whip, which he has, and make that apparatus cleaner so that ultimately this Ministry will not only entertain and inform but will impart a new dynamism, a new social urge, to build up the machinery to fight the enemy, and have a new creative vision.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Inder J. Malhotra. Strictly 15 minutes.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: I will try to finish within that. We have just listened to two most interesting speeches in the House. Shri Masani during his speech pleaded for the creation of a new evil in this country, namely, commercialisation of television and the radio. On the other hand, Shri Khaldikar.....

An hon. Member: Khadilkar.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): A rose will smell as sweet by any other name!

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member need not be interrupted. He has only 15 minutes.

Shri Hem Barua: He has called him a rose.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: Shri Khadilkar pleaded with the hon. Minister to try to free this country of the monopoly of newspapers.

Listening to the two speeches, I was thinking all the time what was the difference in our ways of thinking, what should be our approach to the whole problem of information and broadcasting. It is true beyond doubt that we cannot afford to introduce commercialisation of radio and television in this country. It is also true to a greater extent that we cannot afford to be ruled by the monopoly press in this country any longer. How are we going to, not totally finish, but at least, tone down the monopoly press in this country a little? Certainly one way is legislation, but we have seen for the last seven or eight years that attempts have been made with no practical results.

I have a very small suggestion to make, and although the senior Minister is not here, I hope Lala Shamnathji will convey my suggestion to him. We have seen during the last few years that the monopoly of the bigger newspapers has been growing; compared to that, the small newspapers have not been coming up, the reason being that their resources are meagre. A newspaper that starts publication with small resources has to live from day to day on its earnings, but we find that while on the one hand Government say that they want to tone down the monopoly of the press, they have not been encouraging the small newspapers. The Government of India is one of the biggest advertisers in this country. A very cumbersome procedure has been laid down for the small newspaper to get itself on the list to be able to get Government advertisements. The first condition is that it should be published regularly for six months. If a newspaper can survive the first six months of its publication, I can say without fear of contradiction that it need not depend upon Government advertisements. I know that such conditions do not exist in this country. So, I would earnestly appeal to the hon. Minister that he should kindly look into this thing and see that certain incentives are created and more facilities are given to the small newspapers.

Shri Bade (Khargone): The second condition is that it must be a Congressman.

Shri Inder J. Malhotra: No, that is not necessary. I would say first preference may be given to the Jana Sangh papers. I have got no grudge on that account.

Now, I would come for a minute to the Minister himself. He is the most charming man of this House. Certainly after his taking over this portfolio, the efficiency and the working of this Ministry, to some extent, has apparently improved, and his charming personality may be one of the reasons. In the consultative committee meetings also I have seen that Members come out thoroughly satisfied. In other committee meetings also, I have seen more satisfaction expressed. Certainly, while I give the credit to the hon. Minister, I would also like to give the credit to the people who work under him

Many a time criticism has been made that during the emergency period, this Ministry did not function or did not come up to the standards, it should have, to meet the crisis. Firstly, an emergency, as the word itself indicates, is an emergency. For a person who has been living for years under his normal routine of life—Shri Nath Pai is smiling—it certainly takes a little time to get adjusted to the emergency crisis. If in certain spheres the Ministry did not come up to the standards and efficiency expected of it in the emergency, in my opinion one of the main reasons was that the personnel we had or we are still having did not have the required thorough training in their sphere of work. I will quote an example how recruitments

[Shri Inder J. Malhotra]

are made to the various departments of this Ministry and what qualifications are laid down. The minimum qualification is a graduate with six months or 1-2 years of experience of work in some information organisation or journalistic experience. I do not object to these. But after an officer is selected by the UPSC and an offer of appointment is given by the Ministry—whatever media he is appointed to,—be it the All India Radio or the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity or the Press Information Bureau—he should be given specific and particular training to make him fit to do his job as thoroughly as somebody else who had got that kind of training could do. As far as I can remember, I have been putting forward this suggestion, not before this hon. Minister but on the floor of this House, for the last two years. To my utter unfortunate dissatisfaction nothing much has been done in this regard. I hope that certain steps would be taken this time.

Another thing very closely linked with this programme is the creation of information cadre in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. I say it was a good idea. This has been in existence for the last 2-3 years. I suggest to the hon. Minister that he should ask somebody in the Ministry to assess how far the transfers from one media unit to another media unit of the officers have helped in improving the quality and the quantity of the work. I have a little doubt in my mind that if an officer who has been working in the All India Radio for the last ten years is transferred one fine morning to the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity and is asked to write an advertisement, I would not blame that officer. He would certainly have great difficulty to get adjusted to that kind of work. The creation of an information cadre is a good idea. But let us see, whatever deficiencies are there, to make it more practical and see that our officers would be able to work more efficiently and such deficiencies should be removed.

Let me congratulate the hon. Minister, again, for reviving—I believe it has been revived—the programme of today in Parliament. We have been pleading during the last 3-4 sessions for better coverage of parliamentary proceedings. This was one of the demands we had made. Mr. Masani has suggested and to some extent I would also suggest that the AIR programmes connected with the work of Parliament should be made more interesting, more informative so that people could draw more advantage from these programmes. Group discussions by Members of various Parties could also be one such programme.

I would now refer to the radio stations working in the border areas —Jammu and Srinagar. Srinagar should be made stronger. It is a very important station. It is mainly to cater, on the one hand, to the Kashmiri population in the border areas, rather, the whole of Kashmir to counteract the Pakistani propaganda, and on the other hand, beam out the programmes in the Ladakh area to counteract the Chinese propaganda. I would suggest that some more programmes especially in Ladakhi language should be introduced at the Srinagar station and the Srinagar station should be made more strong so that it could cover a wider area.

Now, regarding the working of the All India Radio again, I would say that at one time the suggestion was made, and as Shri Masani also pointed out, why not give some time for the broadcast of commercial advertisements from this radio as Radio Ceylon has been doing. My only objection to this point is that being a Government department, either you have it 100 per cent Government department, or, you turn it over to Shri Masani's hand and make it a commercial thing.

Then you can have a broadcast of advertisements from All India Radio also.

Mr. Chairman, I have strictly gone by your orders and I am finishing one minute before time. In the end, I would very earnestly appeal to the hon. Minister that this House and this country have got great hopes in him not only as far as the improvement of the working of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is concerned, but otherwise also. I certainly hope that he would give all his mind and heart to this Ministry and see that its working is improved.

Shri Hem Barua: Mr. Chairman, year in and year out I have been speaking on the Demands of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and it is possibly because of this that a friend of mine said, "Why is it that you are interested so much in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting? Don't you think she is insipid and uninspiring?" Whatever that might be, this is one of the most neglected Ministries under the Government's dispensation There is no doubt about it.

Here was a Minister who was appointed—Shri Satya Narayan Sinha—a man of vision and ideas; he was hanging for five months and it is only a few days back that he has been confirmed. Now, can you think of a Minister having to face the budget session of Parliament without a Secretary or a Joint Secretary? I have pointed out these facts only because, as my friend has described it, it is an insipid and uninspiring department of Government. My own contention is that this is one of the most neglected Ministries under this Government of India.

Whatever that might be, this Ministry does not have—I hope Shri Satya Narayan Sinha would excuse me if I say so—any independent existence of its own. It does not have the freedom of action; freedom of thought; it hangs on to the tail-ends of certain other Ministries, and without their co-operation this Ministry cannot stand. For instance, in order to implement its educational programmes, it has to depend on the co-operation of the Education Ministry. In order to put up an exhibition like the "Nation Prepares", it cannot put it up unless and until the Defence Ministry offers its co-operation. Thirdly, for its functioning, for its development and for its improvement, it has to depend on the Finance Ministry. So far as the publicity by this Ministry in South-East Asia is concerned, it was so poor because we do not have strong transmitters and it is only because of the new Minister, Shri Satya Narayan Sinha, who is politically powerful and influential, that it has been possible to go out for more strong and powerful transmitters from Czechoslovakia and some other countries, I suppose. My contention is that it has to depend on different Ministries. I have already pointed out three Ministries. The fourth is, for the terms of service, the conditions of service of its employees, it has to depend on the Home Ministry.

16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Fifthly, for its external publicity, it cannot move an inch without the blessings of the External Affairs Ministry. These are the five Ministries under whose protection this Ministry functions. Let me say that Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha's Ministry is like Draupadi of the epic *Mahabharata* has at least five husbands.

Whatever that may be, from the report, it is evident that the Films Division has tried to do good work during the emergency. But I would say certain other things. It is on the capacity to stimulate the sinews of res-

[Shri Hem Barua]

ponses to abnormal situations that the success of an instrument lies. There is an exodus of the unfortunate victims of communal frenzy in East Pakistan to Garo Hills. They are coming in thousands, battered, tattered, maimed by Pakistani bullets. It is a tragic drama that is being unfolded in the jungle areas of Garo Hills. You will find boys and girls with crosses hanging on their breasts moving about and loitering about. They present a sad spectacle. So many wives have lost their husbands; so many parents have lost their children and so many children have lost their parents.

What did we expect? We expected the Films Division to move to those hill areas and take pictures of these people. If TV cameramen from France and Germany can come and operate there and take pictures there for world publicity, why is it that our Films Division did not move to the hills for this purpose? I do not understand.

This is how we miss our opportunities. On the top of it, Gen. Ayub Khan has been carrying on a vitriolic propaganda. He says there has been an exodus because of the fact that India is encouraging these people to migrate into that country. At this particular moment, we expected that our publicity would have stood up to the occasion and exposed to the world what is happening in Pakistan. In Pakistan, my information is they are exhibiting a picture extensively even in the remotest villages. What does that picture show? That picture has depicted a lurid image of India and even children are shown in the picture with a map of India hanging on the wall shooting at that map.

I do not want our publicity media to degenerate to that depth, because I do not want the mind of our young children to be corrupted and vitiated like that. But at the same time, what pains me is this. Our camera did not move into the Garo Hills at this critical hour to capture the faces of these people. The tragic drama is being unfolded there. May I say, a moment missed is an opportunity lost? And the tragic failure of our Government is this that we lack in vigilance; we lack in alertness and that is why we have been slipping constantly and regularly on the banana peel of Chinese and Pakistani diplomacy.

Now I have to say something about the PIB also. Why is it that the PIB did not organise press parties immediately the exodus took place, to go to the Garo Hills and give wide publicity, both internal and external, to his tragic drama? We expected that from them. It is because of the PTI that we came to know of this tragic exodus, exodus of these masses of uprooted humanity into the Garo Hills. What was the PIB doing? That is why I say that the PIB, apart from dishing out some copies of insipid and uninspiring speeches of some Deputy Ministers to the press, has a bigger function to discharge. I do not accuse the PIB, or the Films Division or the Information and Broadcasting Ministry for all this. I accuse the External Affairs Ministry. It was the job of the External Affairs Ministry to give a kick on the pants of Shri Satya Narayan Sinha to mobilise, to gear up the machinery, and I am sure Shri Satya Narayan Sinha, a man of vision and ideas, would have immediately responded to this.

But my own objection is this. If a Conservative paper like the *London Observer* could carry in headlines the misfortunes of these people migrating from Pakistan to Assam because of daily firings why is it that this news was blacked out from our press? Why was not sufficient publicity given to this very fact? People never understood it and possibly this would have been a slap on the face of the General Ayub Khan who has been carrying on propaganda . .

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barrackpore): Shri Mehr Chand Khanna went there.

Shri Hem Barua: He went there very late and that is why we have to pay the price for being late. We are always late. They precede us in publicity, in diplomacy, in so many other things.

I must say a few words about the All India Radio also. So far as the All India Radio is concerned, it is a fact, and I have said like that last year also, that when the emergency came it was confronted with a very extreme situation. For so long it was broadcasting for the entertainment of the people and peace-time education of the people. It had to gear up its machinery to another item, to prepare the country, to prepare the nation to face the aggression. We understand these difficulties, no doubt. But, in spite of the fact that it was circumscribed, in spite of the fact that it was lacking in experience, it tried to do the job well.

In this connection, I must congratulate all those boys and girls working in the All India Radio, on whose services, on whose contributions the infra-structure or the supra-structure of the whole institution depends or stands. Here I must congratulate also the boys and girls working in the Gauhati station of the All India Radio. I was taken aback when I found that at a time when the Chinese were coming down the NEFA Hills and they were about to approach the Tezpur plains, when Tezpur was being evacuated and there was panic in Gauhati, the staff of the Gauhati station stayed on and the broadcasts went on. The people did not run away, did not leave the station, although they knew very well, those employees of the Gauhati station knew very well, that when an enemy gets into our territory the first thing it does is to catch hold of the broadcasting instrument. Therefore, I must say, though belatedly, that I was taken aback when I heard all these things, and so I must congratulate them.

Coming to External publicity, which is poor in a sense, the Report says that in the matter of external publicity the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting counteracts or issues counters to Chinese and Pakistani propaganda in consultation with the External Affairs Ministry. That is what it says here. That shows that this Ministry does not have the power to decide a thing. It does not have decision; it does not have direction. Every time that it has to broadcast or put out a news it has to run to the External Affairs Ministry and everybody knows that the bureaucrats of the External Affairs Ministry are very slow to move.

And who does not know that just as there cannot be the drama *Hamlet* without a Hamlet in it, there can be no External Affairs Ministry in India without the Hamlet of modern Indian politics in it, without Shri Nehru in it? It is a long-drawn process of AIR running to the External Affairs Ministry people, they consulting the hon. Prime Minister, and it takes a lot of time. What happens? When we serve the news, it is always stale news whereas China and Pakistan give always hot news. About the fall of Bomdila we came to know of it through other channels, not through our channels. There is a deadlock created. That is why I feel that like any other division or unit of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry AIR should be given the autonomy or the Independence to function within the framework of a broad policy; or else—last time also I said like that and this time also I want to repeat it—convert the All India Radio into a corporation like the BBC.

Shri Bade: It is now like Draupadi and the Pandavas.

Shri Hem Barua: I must say that the All India Radio tries to be non-partisan. This time I was listening to the cricket commentaries on the

[Shri Hem Barua]

test matches; that is the only thing I did regularly this time and I found that they had drafted the services of an important hon. Member of this House, Vizzy. He is not here. He did the thing commendably well, I liked it. I would say that this time there has been much improvement.

So long it has tried to function on a non-partisan basis, but I would say that because of the enemies all round, this instrument of publicity should try to function now on a partisan basis because, as you know, there is nothing unfair in love and war. We must be able to combat this propaganda carried on by our enemy countries which is vitriolic in a sense.

You might say that I am making an unethical suggestion but I make it knowing China and Pakistan.

Mr. Speaker: Whatever comes from the hon. Member, I will not call unethical.

Shri Hem Barua: Then I can make it. China and Pakistan, because they want to reach a wider audience and all that are indulging in a sort of piracy of the frequencies, that they are allowed to use by the International Telecommunication Institution. They are indulging in that sort of piracy. You might say that it is unethical of them; but I would say that we should also try to do that because it is war and the choice before us today is between national existence and national extinction.

Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Survival.

Shri Hem Barua: Survival. National existence and national extinction.

Mr. Speaker: Those who intend indulging in such things do not talk about them.

Shri Hem Barua: That might be true; but I would finish it in a sentence.

Shri Bade: Man of action.

Shri Hem Barua: I only hope and trust.....

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: He has to speak.

Shri Hem Barua: .....that Shri Satya Narayan Sinha, instead of being a little Buddha would try to be a pirate also in this matter.

Now what happens? During the Question Hour I asked about a secret transmitter operating from somewhere in Assam and the hon. Minister said that he did not have the information about the secret transmitter. *The Dawn* of Karachi has come out with a news item. The newspaper, the *Dawn* of Karachi, says that such a secret transmitter operates from somewhere in Assam and the Indian Minister knows about it. And this is operated by the Naga National Council, the hostile Nagas. That is the information given to us from Karachi. I think, the hon. Minister does not know about it or did not know about it—whatever that might be. My information is that this secret transmitter operating from somewhere in Assam does not belong to the Naga National Conference. It belongs to the Pakistani agents organised successfully by the Pakistan Assistant High Commissioner's office in Shillong. It has done a lot of things. That office in Shillong has done a lot of things. We wanted that office to be removed when they removed our office at Rajshahi. But unfortunately enough the Prime Minister did not respond to that.

Now, I want to say a word about these staff artistes. So many Members have spoken about these staff artistes. Really it is a very pitiable spectacle to see these staff artistes. They—9,000 people—make substantial contribution to the making of this medium of Information and Broadcasting Ministry. They have to depend entirely on the mercy of their bosses.

There is a tendency and that might tend, I would say, to dangerous malpractices also. I do not want to say there are mal-practices. But there is a tendency like that. All the staff artistes, for the renewal of their contracts, have to run to their bosses.

I have been telling this even in the lobbies to his predecessors, other Ministers and the pet argument that they give is that their existence depends on their voice quality. That is the pet argument. But the hon. Minister should also know that there are people who work at the desk and their existence does not depend on their voice, the quality of their voice and all that.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Your voice has stayed as good as it was.

Shri Hem Barua: I hope my voice stays like that.

Now, I come to another thing. There is a proposal for having a Central Information Service and the Government wants to give effect to it by directly recruiting from the I.A.S. cadre. I say, this is a specialised job and a specialised service. Therefore, people working in this service and who have got experience should get an opportunity rather than those people directly coming from the universities because they are I.A.S. officers.

Then, there is another thing—and I feel it very seriously—and that is that the All-India Radio should have a Language Unit, rather, I would say, Language Service, if not in other languages, at least in Hindi. What happens today is, you translate statements or speeches from English into Hindi and the translations tend to become stilted. All the translations are like that and it is very difficult to produce good translators all the world over. That is the problem today. The translations naturally become staccato and stilted. Therefore, why not have an independent unit like that, an independent Language Service for the All India Radio? Thank you, Sir, for the opportunity given to me.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी (हमीरपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सूचना मंत्रालय एक ऐसा मंत्रालय है जिस के कामों के सम्बन्ध में यह कहा जा सकता है कि बहुत कम नुक्ताचीनी की गंजाइश है । इसके कामों में साधारणत: देखा गया है कि सभी स्थानों पर प्रगति हुई है । जहां जहां कुछ कमजोरियां हैं, उनको सुधारने के लिये भी गंजाइश है । इसके सम्बन्ध में विशेष बातों को मैं पीछे कहूंगा । पहले मैं आकाशवाणी को लेता हूं ।

यह बात सच है कि आकाशवाणी ने परिस्थितियों के अनुकूल अपने को ढाला है, उचित बनाया है । जब हमारे देश पर संकट आया तो उसका इसने डट कर मुकाबला किया और परिस्थितियों के अनुकूल उसने अपने प्रसारण बढ़ाये । लेकिन आकाशवाणी में एक कठिनाई यह है कि उसका तंत्र जो है वह एक मखमल के समान है । इस मखमल में तेल लगा नीति का जो परिवर्तनशील है । जब मंत्री अच्छा आ जाता है तो बन्दर ऊपर चढ़ जाता है और जब मंत्री कुछ नीचे गिरता है तो वह बन्दर भी नीचे गिरता है, फुट भर की उन्नति होती है तो सवा फुट का गिराव हो जाता है । नतीजा यह है कि आकाशवाणी की भाषा नीति में भी अभी तक स्थायित्व नहीं आ पाया है ।

डा० मा० श्री अणे : बन्दर कहां है ?

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : नीचे चला जाता है । मैं समझता हूं कि अब जो मंत्री आये हैं वे स्थिर नीति वाले हैं और उनके पास कैबिनेट का स्तर है । वे इस दिशा में उचित रीति से काम कर सकते हैं ।

मेरा खयाल है कि यदि भारत सरकार एक शरीर है तो प्रधान मंत्री उसके मस्तिष्क

[श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी]

हैं, प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय उसके भुजदंड हैं और सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय उस की जिह्वा, उसके कान और आंखें हैं । यदि हम अपने नेत्र खुले हुए रक्खें या हम अपने कर्ण रध्रों को ठीक तरह से चलायें और जिह्वा का प्रयोग सही तरीके से करें और वह मस्तिष्क की वाणी बोलें, जो मस्तिष्क बोलता है उसे हम जगत विख्यात कर दें, मन की बात संसार तक पहुंचा सकें, तो मैं समझता हूं कि आकाशवाणी का यंत्र वास्तविक रूप से, और यह सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय यंत्र वास्तविक रूप से आगे बढ़ सकेगा ।

मैं देखता हूं कि जितनी हमारी विदेशी सूचनायें हैं वे संकुचित हैं । विदेशी सूचना, मुझे आश्चर्य है, हमारे मंत्री महोदय के पास इस समय नहीं है । मैं सुझाव देता हूं प्रधान मंत्री महोदय को कि विदेशी सूचना कार्यालय भी हमारे मंत्री महोदय के पास आना चाहिये ताकि उसमें तारतम्य हो सके और उचित रीति से देश की और विदेश की हमारी नीति का प्रतिपादन और प्रसारण हो सके । आकाशवाणी का यंत्र भी ऊंचा और बड़ा शक्तिशाली होना चाहिये ताकि अपनी नीति को हम प्रतिपादित ही न कर सकें बल्कि आज जो गलतफहमियां भारत के सम्बन्ध में देश और विदेश में फैली हुई हैं, विशेषकर चीन और भारत के झगड़े के सम्बन्ध में और पाकिस्तान और हिन्दुस्तान के झगड़े के सम्बन्ध में, हम उनका निराकरण कर सकें । आज हम इस योग्य नहीं हैं और पब्लिसिटी का आकाशवाणी का यंत्र इस काम को पूरा नहीं कर पा रहा है । जब मैं बाहर गया तो देखा कि चाहे जापान हो चाहे चीन हो, चाहे हांगकांग हो, यहां तक थाईलैंड में भी, हमारे रेडियो की आवाज नहीं सुन पड़ती । इसलिये आवश्यकता है कि यहां ट्रांसमीटर शक्तिशाली लगाये जायें जो कि इस काम को कर सकें । उस वक्त भी मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहूंगा कि इस मलखम्भ का जो मर्कस आकाशवाणी का यंत्र कर रहा है उस को आप आगे बढ़ायें ताकि भाषा की नीति को और अपने प्रसारण की नीति को हम नीचे गिरने की नौबत न आने दें ।

फिल्म इंडस्ट्री एक उद्योग है । इसमें जिस प्रकार से कृष्ण भगवान के सोलह हजार रानियां थीं और आठ पटरानियां थीं उसी प्रकार से इस मंत्रालय के जितने छविगृह हैं वे सब रानियां हैं और जो निर्माता सस्थायें हैं फिल्म बनाने वाले उद्योगपतियों की वे पटरानियां हैं । फिल्म उद्योग जो है वह राधिका है । हम लोगों ने कृष्ण बनाया है श्री सत्य नारायण सिंह को । लेकिन इस कन्हैया ने अपनी राधिका को एक दूसरे श्याम के सुपुर्द कर दिया ।

श्री बागड़ी (हिसार) : वह कलयुगी कन्हैया हैं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस सारे ड्रामे में माननीय सदस्य ने कौन सी जगह ले रखी है ।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मैं तो दर्शक हूं और देख रहा हूं कि यह राधिका जो है वह एक दूसरे नकली श्याम के साथ अठखेलियां कर रही है और जो निहित स्वार्थ उद्योग में हैं वे लोग इसमें कंट्रोलिंग हाथ रखते हैं, आधिपत्य रखते हैं । इसलिये इसमें उन्नति नहीं होती । यह आवश्यक है कि हमारा फिल्म उद्योग इस प्रकार से पुनर्जीवित किया जाये कि इसमें हमारे देश की सांस्कृतिक और भाषा सम्बन्धी नीति का दिदर्शन हो और जो अश्लील चित्रावलियां और अश्लील कहानियां आती हैं उनको दूर किया जाये और राष्ट्र शिक्षित हो । हमारे फिल्म का रूप और फिल्म उद्योग जो कि हमको भाषा आदि सिखाता है, ऐसे पैराये पर रक्खा जाये कि इसमें अधिकार जो हों वह मंत्री जी का हो और वे उसको उठायें । इसमें आमूल परिवर्तन करने की आवश्यकता है ।

फील्ड पब्लिसिटी अर्थात् क्षेत्रीय प्रचार का जो काम है वह अत्यन्त ढीला है। पब्लिसिटी की दिशा में बहुत कुछ काम किया गया है, और मैं उसकी तारीफ करता हूं जो कि आज तक किया गया है, लेकिन हमारा देश विशाल है। इतने बड़े और विशाल देश में जो हमारा जन-जागृति का कार्य है, जैसा कि श्री खाडिलकर ने कहा विज्ञान की प्रगति हमारी सरकार की रीति जाति की प्रगति और दिन प्रति दिन के कार्यों का मूल्यांकन हम अपनी जनता तक पहुंचा सकें, इसलिये हमारा क्षेत्रीय प्रचार और क्षेत्रीय फिल्म प्रदर्शन का कार्य ऊंचा उठना चाहिये, और इसमें फिल्म डिवीजन को सहयोग देना चाहिये ताकि जनजागरण का, आजकल की वस्तुस्थिति का परिचय जनता जनार्दन को कराया जा सके।

प्रेस इन्फार्मेशन ब्यूरो एक ऐसा विभाग है जिसके सम्बन्ध में बहुत कहने की गुंजाइश है। अभी तक हमारे मंत्रालय का जो रुख रहा वह यह रहा कि इस देश की भाषा अंग्रेजी ही है, और सब काम अंग्रेजी के माध्यम से होना चाहिये, जिसके कारण देश भर में हमारे मंत्रालय की बातें और हमारी सरकार की बातें जनता जनार्दन तक नहीं पहुंच पातीं यदि आप इस पुस्तक को देखें तो प्रकाशनों की जो संख्या है वह अंग्रेजी की बहुत ज्यादा और दूसरी भाषाओं की बहुत कम है। मैं दावे से कह सकता हूं कि इस देश में अंग्रेजी जानने वाले विद्वानों की संख्या २ प्रतिशत से ज्यादा नहीं है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : विद्वान इतने भी नहीं हैं।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : अंग्रेजी समझने वालों की संख्या २ प्रतिशत से ज्यादा नहीं है। यहां की दूसरी भाषाओं के जानने वाले ४४ करोड़ नागरिक हैं। उस में से अगर इस २ फी सदी को काट दिया जाये, तो बाकी लोगों की जानकारी बढ़ाने के लिये तथा ज्ञातव्य देने के लिये आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि हम अपना सारा काम अपनी भाषाओं के माध्यम से करें और अंग्रेजी से केवल अनुवाद मात्र हुआ करे। जैसा कि कई सदस्यों ने विचार व्यक्त किया है सन् १९६५ से हमारे देश की मुख्य भाषा राजभाषा हिन्दी होगी और अंग्रेजी उसकी सहकारी भाषा बनी रहेगी। मैं चाहता हूं कि अभी से ऐसे कदम उठाये जायें कि देश भर में हिन्दी के माध्यम के द्वारा यह कार्य सुचारू रूप से चलने लगे।

हमें कुछ आंकड़े दिये गये थे उनमें बतलाया गया था कि प्रेस इन्फार्मेशन ब्यूरो में हिन्दी विभाग के सोलह कर्मचारी हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय को बतलाना चाहता हूं कि सोलह वर्ष पूर्व भी इतने ही कर्मचारी थे। इसमें कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है। उर्दू विभाग में चार इन्फार्मेशन आफिसर्स हैं और हिन्दी में केवल एक जब कि अंग्रेजी में पन्द्रह बीस सूचनाधिकारी मुकर्रर हैं। जब कि हिन्दी का इतना बड़ा काम हमारे देश में हो रहा है, हर काम हिन्दी के माध्यम से हो रहे हैं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं तो आपको बधाई दूंगा कि आपकी लोक-सभा में हिन्दी के काम में बहुत उन्नति हो रही है, और अगले सत्र से हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी दोनों में आप साथ-साथ अनुवाद दिलाया करेंगे। अगर इस काम में सूचना मंत्रालय पिछड़ा बना रहे, अपनी भाषा सम्बन्धी नीति के सम्बन्ध में, तो यह बड़ा असन्तोषजनक होगा। दुःखदायी होगा। इसलिये मैं चाहता हूं कि सूचना मंत्री इस प्रतिवेदन पर तो ध्यान दें, जिसके लिये वे बधाई के पात्र हैं, साथ ही साथ कोशिश करें कि सन् १९६५ तक हिन्दी के माध्यम के द्वारा काम करने होने में प्रगति हो सके, और जो चीफ पब्लिसिटी आफिसर रक्खे हुए हैं वे केवल अंग्रेजी के न हों, दूसरी भाषाओं के भी हों, खास तौर से हिन्दी के तो अवश्य हों और उनको उचित स्थान मिल सके। उनके साथ न्याय होना चाहिये।

[श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी]

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं लम्बी चौड़ी बात तो नहीं कहना चाहता, इतना ही कह कर समाप्त कर दूंगा कि इस सम्बन्ध में भी हिन्दी की नीति रीति को फिर से रिओरिएन्टेड करने की, उसमें बहुत ज्यादा परिवर्तन करने की आवश्यकता है, स्टाफ को बढ़ाने की आवश्यकता है ताकि काम सुचारू रूप से किया जा सके। इस वक्त जो स्टाफ है वह उतना काम नहीं कर सकता जितना उसके मत्थे पर रक्खा गया है। स्टाफ को बढ़ाना चाहिये, उसकी पदोन्नति करनी चाहिये ताकि हिन्दी में काम हो सके और अनुवाद मात्र अंग्रेजी का हो। समाचारों का अनुवाद मात्र अंग्रेजी से न हो बल्कि मौलिक रूप से देश के सामने समाचार आ सकें।

अखबारी दुनिया के बारे में मैं मंत्रालय को कहना चाहता हूं कि इस वक्त एकाधिकार बहुत फैल गया है। एकाधिकार की एक बड़ी विचित्रता यह है कि वह व्यापारिक ढंग से चलाया जा रहा है। उदाहरण के लिये "हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स" के मालिक दो अखबार चलाते हैं, एक तो 'हिन्दुस्तान" हिन्दी का और दूसरा 'हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स" अंग्रेजी का। अंग्रेजी वाला अंग्रेजी की बात कहता है और हिन्दी वाला हिन्दी की बात कहता है और दोनों में बड़ा विरोधाभास है। मतलब यह है कि हिन्दी के पाठक तो हिन्दी की बात पढ़ेंगे तो उसकी बिक्री बढ़ेगी और अंग्रेजी वाले अंग्रेजी की बात पढ़ेंगे तो उसकी बिक्री बढ़ेगी। उनका लक्ष्य पैसा कमाना है। इस देश की भाषा नीति क्या है, इससे उन्हें कोई मतलब नहीं है, कोई गरज नहीं। इस प्रकार के अखबारों से आज देश का काम नहीं चल सकता। तो आज चेन के जितने अखबार हैं, एकाधिकार वाले हिन्दुस्तान के जितने अखबार हैं उनको सूचना दे दी जानी चाहिये कि एक अखबार वाला दूसरा संस्करण इस देश में वही व्यक्ति नहीं चल सकता। अखबार चाहे अंग्रेजी का हो या हिन्दी का हो वह अलग अलग होना चाहिये। यह नहीं कि "हिन्दुस्तान" अखबार हो या 'नवभारत टाइम्स" अखबार हो या दूसरे जितने भी अखबार हों, वे अंग्रेजी के अनुवाद मात्र हों। हम यह नहीं चाहते। हम चाहते हैं कि मौलिक रूप से हिन्दी में अखबार निकाले जायें ताकि लोग अपनी भाषाओं में समाचारों को पढ़ सकें और समझ सकें कि देश में क्या हो रहा है, अनुवाद के माध्यम के द्वारा नहीं।

कागज के सम्बन्ध में मैं कहूंगा कि कागज की नीति का पुनर्निरीक्षण करने की आवश्यकता है। जो लोग आज जाली आंकड़े देकर अखबारी कागज ले लेते हैं ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिये। हां जो अखबार की जरूरत का कागज है वह उसको ठीक टीक समय पर पूरा पूरा मिल जाये, इसमें कटौती का जो प्रस्ताव है वह नहीं की जानी चाहिये। अखबार ही एक ऐसी चीज है जिसके माध्यम से जनता तक पहुंचा जा सकता है। अगर अखबारों के कागज की कटौती की जाएगी तो इसका मतलब यह होगा कि उनका सरकुलेशन कम हो जाएगा। इसलिये मेरा निवेदन है कि आप यह कटौती न करें।

मैं एक और बात की तरफ आप का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूं। आकाशवाणी के केन्द्रों को स्थापित करने के सम्बन्ध में अभी तक जो नीति रही है वह पक्षपात की नीति रही है। उदाहरण के लिए अनेक भाषायी और सांस्कृतिक क्षेत्रों की अवहेलना की जा रही है, जैसेकि बुंदेलखंड। जब केसकर साहब मंत्री थे तो उन्होंने बतलाया था कि हमारी नीति यह है कि दो सौ मील से कम फासले पर हम दूसरा रेडियो केन्द्र स्थापित नहीं करते। लेकिन हम देखते हैं कि लखनऊ से ४५ मील के फासले पर कानपुर में एक केन्द्र स्थापित कर दिया गया है। जबकि बुन्देलखंड में, जोकि इतना बड़ा क्षेत्र है, जहां

लोक गीतों की परम्परा रही है, जहां मैथिलीशरण और तुलसी दास जैसे महाकाव्यों के रचयिता हुए हैं, और जो क्षेत्र कवि कला का केन्द्र रहा है, कोई केन्द्र नहीं स्थापित किया गया। मैं चाहता था कि मंत्री महोदय इस ओर विशेष रूप से ध्यान दें।

हिन्दी भाषा की चार मुख्य डाइलेक्ट्स हैं, खड़ी बोली, अवधी, भोजपुरी और बुंदेलखंडी। क्या कारण है कि तीन डाइलेक्ट्स की उन्नति की तो कोशिश की जा रही है, लेकिन बुन्देलखंडी की ओर अवहेलना का दृष्टिकोण अपनाया जा रहा है। मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि बुंदेलखंड की जनता की यह मांग है कि एक रेडियो केन्द्र बुंदेलखंड में स्थापित किया जाय जिस से वहां का कवरेज हो सके और वहां की संस्कृति और परम्पराओं को अपना स्थान मिल सके।

डा० म० श्री अणे (नागपुर) : आपने मैथिली का नाम नहीं लिया।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : दूसरी बात मैं टेलीप्रिंटर के बारे में कहना चाहता हूं। आपने स्थान स्थान पर टेलीप्रिंटर लगा रखे हैं। यद्यपि यह काम पोस्ट एंड टेलीग्राफ विभाग का है, लेकिन मैं मंत्री महोदय से कहना चाहता हूं कि इसका सूचना से बड़ा सम्बन्ध है। आपके समाचार टेलीप्रिंटर द्वारा जाते हैं। बुंदेलखंड क्षेत्र में दस पन्द्रह दैनिक पत्र निकलते हैं लेकिन वहां पर कोई टेलीप्रिंटर नहीं लगाया गया है। मेरा निवेदन है कि मंत्री महोदय पोस्ट एंड टेलीग्राफ विभाग से मिल कर इस दिशा में आवश्यक कदम उठाने की कृपा करें।

जैसाकि अभी अन्य मित्रों ने भी कहा, आप अपने समाचार प्रेस ट्रस्ट आफ इंडिया से लेते हैं। यह संस्था केवल अंग्रेजी में समाचार देती है। कोई हिन्दी या अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं का समाचार देने वाली इस प्रकार की संस्था नहीं है। आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि प्रेस ट्रस्ट आफ इंडिया की तरह की ही हिन्दी तथा अन्य देशी भाषाओं की संस्थाएं भी स्थापित की जायें और आकाशवाणी के सम्वाददाता ऐसे पिछड़े हुए क्षेत्रों में भी नियुक्त किए जायें जैसे बुंदेलखंड है जिससे कि वहां की खबरें भी आ सकें। ऐसा होना नहीं चाहिए कि दिल्ली में मंत्रियों के चरित्र चित्रण पर तो अधिक ध्यान दिया जाय और पिछड़े हुए इलाकों की तरफ ध्यान न दिया जाय जोकि हर समय आप के काम आते हैं। लड़ाई होती है तो इन क्षेत्रों के लोग देश की रक्षा के लिये हमेशा सामने आते हैं। बुंदेलखंड आल्हा ऊदल जैसे वीरों का देश है। यहां पर आकाशवाणी का सम्वाददाता नियुक्त होना चाहिए जिससे यहां की खबरों का कवरेज हो सके।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आप को बधाई देता हूं और मंत्री महोदय को और उनके समस्त विभागीय अधिकारियों को बधाई देता हूं कि उनका काम सराहने योग्य रहा है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने कहा "आप को बधाई देता हूं"। यह रिकार्ड दुरुस्त होना चाहिए।

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : आपने मुझे समय दिया इसलिए आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं।

Shrimati Renuka Barkataki (Barpeta): I must join the hon. Members who have welcome the new Minister in charge of this portfolio and wished him well.

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has had to carry a very extraordinary and heavy responsibility ever since the emergency was declared. Even in normal times, this Ministry has a decisive role to play in the dissemination of information and the moulding of informed public opinion. The media of mass communication are the sinews of democracy, and this Ministry is the guar-

[Shrimati Renuka Barkataki]

dian of these media. They have to be protected from insidious influences and interests that seek to stifle democracy and exploit freedom to end freedom. When an infant democracy is subjected to aggression by its enemies, the media of communication have also to serve as a weapon of defence and diplomacy, and an active instrument for securing the sympathy and support of other nations. I am glad that the Ministry has made an earnest effort to serve all these demands that have been made on it during the year.

Sir, the report says that the activities of the AIR during the year were characterised by two dominant features, firstly, the expeditious implementation of the development plan to extend the range of broadcasting over a larger part of the country and, secondly, the harnessing of all available resources to meet the situation created by the Chinese aggression.

I must congratulate the Ministry on the progress made in the implementation of the medium-wave plan which with the installation of the 63 additional transmitters will bring 74 per cent of the population and 61 per cent of the total area of the country within the listening range of the medium wave programme. I am glad that the power of the existing transmitters at Kurseong, Gauhati and Srinagar have been materially enhanced to meet the requirements of the situation on the border. I have no experience about the Srinagar station; but so far as Gauhati and Kurseong is concerned, I cannot say that the power of transmitters are adequate to counteract Chinese propaganda in the north-east frontier area. I have myself tried to tune to Gauhati and Kurseong stations from Ziro, Pasighat, Along, Daporijo and other places in the NEFA on a powerful transistor set. I tried to tune Gauhati station from Tuting too which is a few miles on this side of MacMoran Line. But these stations were feeble, incoherent and inaudible. The stations at Kohima and Imphal are also feeble and inadequate. In view of the imperative need to counteract the Chinese propaganda on our frontiers, I urge that powerful transmitters be installed at Gauhati, Kohima and Imphal, and Kurseong.

As for the programmes of the AIR, I have to pay a tribute to the officers, artistes and the producers of the AIR who did their best to rise to the occasion during the worst days of the Emergency. However, one item of the programme, 'Topic for Today' did seem positively monotonus; and I am glad that, of late, even this programme is showing signs of improvement.

I must also draw the attention of the Ministry to the fact that the efficiency of the production staff is being considerably hampered by the widespread frustration that has resulted from whimsical appointments and the deep sense of insecurity that is being felt by the staff working on the basis of contract appointments.

The community listening scheme is comendable and it is gratifying that thousands of receiving sets have been distributed at subsidized rates to panchayats, blocks, etc. But I am afraid that more than half of these sets are lying idle and constantly in disrepair. I would, therefore, urge that the Ministry should lay down strict rules to ensure that the projects, panchayats or other organisations to whom the sets are given free or at subsidized rates do not let them go out of commission by neglecting necessary and timely repairs.

I shall refer to the field publicity wing now. It is heartening to note that 19 field publicity units were posted in border areas to meet the immediate demands of the Emergency. Of these, 11 were posted in Assam and in the NEFA. During my visit to NEFA after the fall of Bomdila, I met some of the young officers who

were working in the field publicity units in these areas where there are very few motorable roads and where they have to carry the heavy equipments publicity on their back. I think we should be able to provide them with light and modern equipment so that they can carry them with ease to any point on the hills.

Another problem which the field units have to face in the hill areas is to keep regular contact with the headquarters to get instructions from the headquarters as well as to convey information to the headquarters for outside publicity. I would like to request the Ministry to utilise the wireless or microwave communication equipment to keep contact with the officers.

The report of the Ministry says that field officers carry on propaganda to counteract the hostile Chinese and Pakistani propaganda and for the purpose, special talking points and guidance material are given to the officers to brief them on important matters. One of the subjects was about the NEFA reverses enquiry report. When I visited NEFA and some parts of Assam, I learnt how these poor officers were heckled by the public on this issue. Naturally, the people are eager to know what happened, what action the Government have taken on the NEFA reverses report, whether an enquiry was conducted who were the persons guilty and whether any punishment was given to them and so on. They asked these officers what happened to the General who was in charge of the operations in the Kameng division. The field publicity officers had to improvise their answers to these questions on the basis of the information they had got from the local newspapers, because the guidance materials did not gave them any information about this. They had to admit that the General had resigned and had been appointed in some shipping firm on a fabulous salary. This information neither reassured the people nor assuaged their feelings.

Then I should like to say a few words about the exhibition, "The Nation Prepares", to which reference was made by Shri Hem Barua. I saw one of these exhibitions at Delhi and another at Gauhati. The quality of the exhibits at Gauhati was so different that I could not believe that this was one of the projects of our Government to boost the morale and arouse public enthusiasm. On making an enquiry, I was told that the exhibits could not be brought to Gauhati in time. I do not know whether such exhibitions are organised in a similar slipshod way at other places too. I hope the Government will remember that poor quality of exhibits will hamper our cause by dampening our morale.

I must congratulate the Ministry for its quick decision to transfer the PIB's normal pattern of work into a broad-based publicity effort in the context of emergency. I must say a few words about the regional office of the Press Information Bureau at Gauhati. That office is housed in a very dilapidated building; the staff is not adequate and the teleprinter line is mostly out of order. The importance of this office at Gauhati, which is supposed to be or is described as the capital of the forward areas in this sector, cannot be over-emphasised. The Government must take proper and prompt action to improve the efficiency of that office.

It is heartening to know from the report of the Press Registrar that the increase in the circulation of periodicals and dailies is nearly double since 1961, but the Government has to be more vigilant and careful to check the growth of yellow journalism, especially of small papers thriving on sex, slander and crime.

As far as the distribution of newsprint is concerned, I must say that the Ministry is not very fair to the small but very effective papers in the border areas. As a result of this, the small newspapers in the border areas have to persist in buying newsprint at

[Shrimati Renuka Barkataki]

blackmarket prices and this in turn makes the newspapers very costly to the local readers.

I must now refer to the efforts that the Ministry is making to counteract the propaganda that China, Pakistan and the Naga hostiles are carrying on both within our frontiers and in the international sphere. I cannot say that our efforts are adequate and sufficiently effective. It is common knowledge—in fact it was pointed out by many Members of this House—that there are so many unlocated transmitters operating within our borders, in violation of the law of the land and international conventions. They are carrying on a vicious campaign against our country and our Government. The powerful transmitters of the Peking Radio and the powerful transmitters in Dacca and Chitagong area beaming their broadcasts at the people of our border areas, especially the tribal population. Hostile Nagas too are reported to be operating their own transmitting units. Nor is the radio the only propaganda medium that China and Pakistan are employing. Pakistan is using illegal infiltrants and so-called religious divines who are sent out to the vulnerable areas. China is holding out sweet and tempting promises of milk and honey, utilising young tribals whom they have indoctrinated and misleading people by false accounts of prosperity on the other side of the border. To combat all these, we have to intensify and diversify our internal and external propaganda. The cynical and lying propaganda of China must be exposed. We do not need to resort to the kind of lies or vicious and vituperative propaganda that she or Pakistan carries on. The truth about Pakistani atrocities, persecution, genocide and cynical disregard of human values is damaging enough. For lack of time, I donot want to quote the harrowing tales I have heard and the heartrending sights I have seen when I visited the refugee camps in Garo Hills. To put up these facts before the bar of world opinion is to expose Pakistan in its true colours. We must orient our publicity in this direction. We have a strong and unassailable case. Let it not go by default.

With these words, I support the Demands of the Ministry.

Shri Karni Singhji (Bikaner): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting plays a vital role in building up a country like ours, with such an immense amount of illiteracy. It is a matter of very great pleasure that at long last we have a Minister like the hon. Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha, who has been known as a go-getter and who has fortunately no fads as well. With his coming in as Minister of Information and Broadcasting, a breath of fresh air has come into the Ministry.

It is a well-known thing that in a country, particularly where there is so much illiteracy, the audio-visual media are regarded as perhaps one of the best ways of inculcating education into the minds of those who are uneducated. It is because of this that this Ministry is of such vital importance to our country.

The radio facilities in our country and the net-works are indeed praiseworthy and over the many years, we have seen that AIR have opened many stations all over the country in an attempt to reach all the remote areas.

I would, however, like briefly to mention something about the 1000KW stations that we wish to put up in our country to counter the hateful and poisonous propaganda of China and Pakistan, against our country. I should not get entangled into the controversy as to from which country we must get the transmitter. But the most important thing at this stage is that when Pakistan and China are pushing through their powerful pro-

paganda against our country not only towards India, but towards the other neighbouring satellite countries, we today are unable to meet their propaganda or to put out any counter-propaganda on our part. I have no doubt that the Ministers are trying their best to get a 1000 KW or even a larger transmitter. But I would say that the important factor right now is time. We have wasted a lot of time in this and every single day that is wasted means so many other people in other countries will swing over to the propaganda of China and Pakistan against us. I would urge upon the Minister that we should now lose no time and must get a transmitter that can cover a wide area not only of the Far-East, but also China and parts of the Middle-East. If we can achieve that, say, within the next six months, I am quite sure that our propaganda machinery would be geared up to full strength.

Last year I have made out a case for making the All India Radio into a corporation. The same thing was today very ably suggested by Shri Masani and I would like to lend my support to this. The All India Radio has today become a gigantic organisation and I think we could have a corporation and make it an independent body.

For any Ministry as dynamic as that of Information and Broadcasting, you need not only a Minister, not only a Deputy Minister but the entire hierarchy of people who genuinely believe in the mission they are propagating. In this case, we have a dynamic Minister. I hope that all those under him would give him the full support that he needs so that this Ministry can be made the most powerful instrument to get rid of uneducation.

In our country, people listen to radios for two purposes—to imbibe knowledge and also for a certain amount of recreation. In an overtaxed country like ours, where a citizen is oppressed from all sides, he very often switches on to the Vividh Bharati programme so that he may be able to relax himself. Since a year now I have been approaching the Government and the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting with the request that the Vividh Bharati programme should be made a round-the-clock programme. India is an immense country and there must be millions of people who work at all times of the day and night. There must be thousands and thousands of people who must be travelling in trucks on the roadways. For them a round-the-clock programme of Vividh Bharati would not only be entertainment but would also help the bus and lorry drivers to keep awake and be away from hazards. It has been an accepted fact now that a large number of accidents take place on the roads during night when people suffer from road hypnosis. If only they can tune to radio, it will keep them awake and a number of accidents could be averted.

Many friends have paid tribute to our colleague, the Maharaja of Vijayanagaram, who is indeed a well-known figure in cricket. He has become extremely popular as a commentator for cricket. I sincerely hope that cricket politics will not come in the way of this fine man doing his job as a commentator.

This Ministry has over the many years given a great deal of emphasis to sports, not only on the radio commentaries but also on the movie newsreels. I would like to add that some more items of sport like shooting and golf could receive greater coverage by this Ministry, because these are some of the important items on the sports agenda.

Last year I had spoken at length about television. Our country today needs television more badly than most others, as I mentioned then, because of our illiteracy. India is a huge country with immense tasks before it and the only way that you can reach the millions of its people is through rural television and, as far as television is concerned, we are sadly lack-

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ing. I was in Egypt a year and a half back and I found they had three channels there. In Cairo City alone three channels are operating. Singapore had two and Japan had five. In India we still have a baby transmitter in Delhi. I admit that as far as the picture and voice are concerned, the Indian transmitter is excellent, but we are not reaching a sufficient number of people.

I have suggested this last year,—I also repeat it again this year—that if we are unable to put television transmitters in the country, then we should certainly examine the question of sponsored programmes. The hon. Minister has an open mind on this subject and right now the most important thing is the question of time. If we are going to lose two or three years merely thinking whether we should go in for sponsored programmes or not, valuable time will be lost, as also valuable opportunities to people who want to imbibe greater knowledge.

As far as the Films Division is concerned, being a photographer myself, I would like to congratulate all those concerned on the wonderful piece of work they are doing in producing first-rate movie films, news reels etc.

The photography is first-rate and I think that the message that they try to convey is something we all Indians can well be proud of and the hon. Minister can well be congratulated for it. But I would like to suggest that in view of the foreign exchange problem that we have in this country —having been in this House for three terms I know that we are likely to live with the foreign exchange problem perhaps for the rest of our lives —it is essential that the people of India are given an opportunity to see the other parts of the world through the medium of the movie films. For that I would request the hon. Minister that we should have short films changed every week along with the news reel showing the different parts of the world, how those people are trying to advance their countries, how they work and showing the progress in all fields If these films could be produced either by our Indian cameramen or alternatively imported from abroad, it would help our people having a better idea of the rest of the world which they are deprived of visiting because of the foreign exchange problem.

I would also like to suggest that we should also start a series known as "See your Country" or "Know your Country" series. We have something of the sort at the moment, but it is not intensive enough. I would like that the Government should have, say, one movie film every week, that is, 52 in all, which would cover most of our country and which would help also a number of people in our country, who wish to travel but who do not have the means at their disposal, to get to know their own country, the beautiful places, the cities, the lakes and everything else of interest.

As far as India is concerned, it is equally important for us to produce short movie reels about our own country, about our industrialisation, about our river valley projects, and send these shorts out to other countries so that people can get a better idea of what we are trying to do and what we have achieved in the short while that we have been a free country.

This is the Olympic year and there would be millions of people from all over the world who would be lucky enough to go and see the Olympics at Tokyo. Unfortunately, again because of the foreign exchange restrictions millions of Indians who would have liked to go and see the Olympics themselves would be deprived of that pleasure. I hope that the Ministry will depute a team of cameramen from India who can go and produce a movie film called, "India at the

Tokyo Olympics"—say, an hour length film—which could be shown all over the country so that what people will miss seeing by themselves they can certainly see by the medium of this movie.

Then I would like to say very briefly a few words about the publications and the Publications Section of our Ministry under question. We have a number of magazines that come out, like, the *Kurukshetra, Yojana* and a large number of others. Some of them are good, but what I regard as the yardstick of a good magazine is whether anybody will pick up a *Yojana* or a *Kurukshetra* in spite of other better magazines being on the stalls. That is the yardstick. Unfortunately, the get-up of our magazines is not good enough and although many of these are doled out free to people, not many will read them. I hope that the Publications Division will spend a little more time on a better get-up of these magazines.

As far as the Press Information Bureau is concerned, which is functioning, I believe, now for 25 years, I understand that even today they do not have even a single foreign language cell. I believe that as far as languages like Chinese or the languages of the Far Eastern or the Middle Eastern countries are concerned, we in India today have to depend on translations from the *London Times* or the BBC. I do not know whether it is the correct position; but if it is so, I would very strongly request the hon. Minister that we should have these language cells, research cells, so that our own boys and girls in India can learn these languages and be able to translate them without our having to depend on foreign news agencies of other countries.

I should briefly mention about the Central Information Service which, I believe, has just now been put into operation. While it is on the same lines as the IAS or the IPS, the men of this Service are very low paid; the pay scales are most unattractive. I would like the hon. Minister to reconsider this question and make the pay scales attractive so that we can get better people for this specialist service.

As far as external publicity is concerned, I would like to make an observation here. As regards internal publicity the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting do an adequate job; but as far as the external publicity is concerned, which, I believe, is handled by the Ministry of External Affairs, I do feel that a certain amount of dovetailing is necessary between the Information and Broadcasting Ministry and the Ministry of External Affairs. I have had the occasion to travel a great deal abroad and the more I travel the more I feel that people outside do not really know what is happening in our country. I was in San Francisco a couple of years ago and I went to an Indian restaurant and all I saw there was a peculiar picture and I asked an Indian there "Why don't you have something about our river valley projects or our steel plant?" He said, "we are not being fed by anybody." Then, again I was in Italy a few years ago. I was told by my guide that the impression the Italians had about India was of a country full of hungry people, with beggars all over the streets, snake charmers, maharajas and elephants and what not. Surely, that is not the picture we want to convey to the rest of the world. We want to convey to them a picture of how we are trying to battle with our poverty problem, with our education problem and how we are trying to create a fuller life for the millions of Indian people. What we really need, as far as the external publicity is concerned, is a psychological approach, something that the foreign mind can absorb. That is important. For that, I think, we need a psychological approach from our Ministry so that

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these shorts, these news-reels, whatever they are, can be absorbed by them.

17.00 hrs.

While on this subject, I would like to say that I had an occasion to see an Indian film called "The Householder". This film was shown by our Ambassador in America to a few invited guests and I think, it was one of the finest Indian movie films that I have seen and I believe it was received very well in the United States. I would like the Ministry to see that those films that go out of our country, that portray the Indian life, the Indian way of living are hand-picked films which show the best in our country so that we can get a greater understanding from other nations.

Before I conclude, I shall once more repeat what I said last year. One of the biggest problems that our country is facing is over-population. This is one field in which the Information and Broadcasting Ministry can do a lot. It is through the medium of your newsreels and your propaganda that you can convey to the millions of people in our country that in the present context it is not correct for any citizen to have more than three children. That should be the optimum size of a family. I would very strongly request the Minister to see that every newsreel, every week, carries at least a one minute programme on family planning trying to convey to the masses the need to restrict their families so that we can have a fuller life for our people, a higher standard of living for our nation.

Now that broadcasting and all these things have been going on for a long time, I think, it is about time that we have a reviewing commission like they have in Great Britain consisting of Members of Parliament and noted journalists who could review the working of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and submit their report to the nation so that better suggestions can come out of it.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I should not take up any more time and I thank you for the time you gave me. I would like to congratulate the hon. Minister on the fact that he has such a broad-minded approach to problems in the country, that he is a man who is completely free from fads, and I am sure that I will be joining all those here in wishing him the best of luck in the new Ministry and in helping to build a new great India.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया (फर्रुखाबाद) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरे एक दोस्त अभी रूस से लौट कर आए हैं और उन्होंने मुझे बताया है कि रूसी कह रहे हैं प्रावदा में इजबैस्तिया नहीं है और इजबैस्तिया में प्रावदा नहीं है । रूस के ये दो अखबार हैं । प्रावदा माने सच और इजबस्तिया माने समाचार । रूस के लिए जितनी यह बात सही है हिन्दुस्तान के लिए उससे ज्यादा सही है । यहां सच में समाचार नहीं है और समाचार में सच नहीं है । एक उद हरण मैं आकाशवाणी से आपको देता हूं जिस का सिर्फ आधे घंटे का कार्यक्रम मुझे जंचता है । जब कभी कोई मीरा अपने सब सांवरिया के साथ नाचती है या कोई कबीर अपनी चादरिया को जतन से ओढ़ कर के रख देता है तो मुझ जैसा पुराना आदमी इस सच्चाई पर थोड़ी देर के लिए खुश हो लेता है लेकिन इस सच में भी ताकत नहीं रह गई है देश को बदलने की, नए रास्ते पर ले जाने की । इसके अलावा जिस तरह का समाचारों में हमें सच मिलता है वह बिल्कुल साफ है । अखबारों को देखते हुए मालूम होता है कि जैसे हिन्दुस्तान की दुनिया में बड़ी इज्जत है । बड़ा मुंह और छोटा हाथ । आज जितना दुनिया वाले हम पर हंस रहे हैं शायद ही और किसी देश पर उतना हंस रहे हों । जो सही समाचार हैं वे हमारे पास आते नहीं हैं । काश्मीर के मामले में सुरक्षा परिषद् में ऐसा लगा यहां के अखबारों को देख कर जैसे हमने फतह कर ली । लेकिन

इधर दस दिन में मालूम हो रहा है कि नहीं, वह फतह नहीं थी, वह तो हार थी। इस तरह के समाचारों से क्या मिलेगा। बहुत तरक्की हो रही थी देश में, लेकिन गुब्बारा जितना उड़ा था दस पन्द्रह बरस तक, तीन आने की सुई ने उसको पिचका कर छोड़ दिया। इस तरह के समाचारों से कोई भी देश को लाभ होने वाला नहीं है। सच्चे समाचार होने चाहियें।

गरीब देश में समाचारों का सब से बड़ा स्रोत सरकार हुआ करती है और सरकार का सब से बड़ा मकसद होता है किसी तरह से गद्दी पर बैठे रहना चाहे सच बोल कर या झूठ बोल कर। पहली सलाह तो मैं यह देना चाहता हूं कि जहां तक हो सके सच की तरफ भी समाचारों में ध्यान दिया जाये। अगर सरकार न दे सके तो जनता दे।

अखबारों का जो हल है उसको भी आप देख लें। श्री गोयनका या उनके जैसे लोगों के लिए तो मैं कानून बना दूं कि या तो वे अखबारों के मालिक रहें या मिलों के मालिक, दोनों के मालिक एक साथ न रहें।

तबीयत तो आती है कि इसके बारे में मैं और कुछ कहता। लेकिन सरकार इस लायक नहीं है कि आज गोयनका जी के अखबारों को सरकार को सौंप दिया जाय। इसलिए मैं सिर्फ इतना ही कहूंगा कि हिन्दुस्तान में अखबारों के मालिकों को, मिलों, चाहे वे चीनी की मिलें हों या जूटपाट की हों, उनको रखने का अखत्यार नहीं रहना चाहिये। दरअसल यह मामला बड़ा लंबा जाता है। छोटी मोटी चीज को करने से यह नहीं होगा। शायद मंत्री महोदय के बस का नहीं है, हमारे में से किसी के बस का नहीं है क्योंकि हिन्दुस्तान का सच बिगड़ चुका है। मेरी हमेशा यही तबीयत होती है कि इस सच पर कुछ बोलूं, छोटी मोटी तफ्सील की बातों पर नहीं। लेकिन क्या किया जाय। पिछले हजार डेढ़ हजार बरस से जो चित्र हमारे सामने वह तो गज, ग्राह, विष्णु का है। कोई विष्णु आ कर हमें बचा दे। हम खाली उसकी पूजा कर लें, उसकी आरती उतार लें। हमारे सामने चित्र है जहांगीरी घंटे का, हम बजा दें और कोई जा कर हमें न्याय दिला दे। जब हमारा यह हाल है, जब हम नाम, जप, आरती, पूजा, पाठ, यज्ञ इत्यादि से ही तरक्की करना चाहते हैं तो कहां से सच होगा, कहां से लगन होगी, कहां से पुरुषार्थ होगा। जब तक सूचना और प्रसारण विभाग इस मामले से नहीं लड़ता, जब तक वह हिन्दुस्तान की जनता को ऐसी जहनियत नहीं देता कि पूजा, पाठ, यज्ञ से कुछ नहीं होगा, तब तक क्या हो सकता है। शायद मैं ऐसे लोगों को यह सलाह दे रहा हूं जो खुद इस रोग में मुबतला हैं। लेकिन क्या करूं इस वक्त देश इस रोग से बड़ा बिगड़ा हुआ है। मैं एक मिसाल देता हूं और सफाई भी कर देना चाहता हूं। पिछली बार जब मैंने वैज्ञानिकों के बारे में कहा था कि वैज्ञानिक खोज ठीक तरह से नहीं हो पाती तो मैंने कहा था कि वैज्ञानिक तब अच्छा हिन्दुस्तान में पैदा होगा जब वह मनुष्य के दिमाग और पुरुषार्थ पर विश्वास करेगा, न कि जप के ऊपर। साथ साथ यह भी मैंने कहा था कि यदि वह एक अच्छी बीबी ढूंढ ले जिस का बाप असरदार हो तो वह अधिक तरक्की कर सकता है बनिस्बत वैज्ञानिक खोज करने के। उस वक्त लोगों ने समझा मैं किसी एक खास वैज्ञानिक के लिए कह रहा हूं। ऐसा मेरा मतलब नहीं था। हमारे देश में तबीयत हमेशा यही रहती है कि तरक्की कुछ ऐसे ढंग से कर लो, चापलूसी से, जप से, शब्द से, कीर्तन से, नाम से वगैरह। जब तक मंत्री महोदय इस चीज से नहीं लड़ेंगे हिन्दुस्तान में सूचना और प्रसारण का कोई काम हो नहीं सकता है।

श्री यशपाल सिंह (कैराना) : पूजा तो सब से बड़ा कर्त्तव्य है।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : आप उन को कह दीजियेगा क्योंकि वह ज्यादा पूजा और कम पुरुषार्थ पहले से करते हैं क्योंकि आप की सलाह वह इस मामले में ज्यादा मान सकते हैं और उन में पुरुषार्थ थोड़ा बहुत अगर बचा होगा तो वह भी खत्म हो जायगा। मेरी बात को पक्की तरह से मैं आशा करता हूं वह समझ गए होंगे।

एक और सलाह मैं दे दूं। आकाशवाणी के सब लोगों को तो मैं जानता नहीं, एक औरत को जानता हूं बहुत बरसों से। वह बड़ी तेजी हैं, बड़ी मेहनती हैं, बड़ी बुद्धिमान हैं। अगर वह थोड़ी चापलूस भी होतीं तो शायद आज आकाशवाणी की सब से बड़ी अफ सर ह तीं अभी वह कोई छोटी हैं सातवें, आठवें या नवें नम्बर पर होंगी। इस बात का बहुत ध्यान रखना है कि लोगों को चूंकि चापलूसी के जरिये तरक्की दे दिया जाया करती है, इसलिए हमारे बहुत से विभाग अच्छे नहीं हो पाते हैं, फिर चाहे वह आकाशवाणी हो, चाहे शिक्षा मंत्रालय हो चाहे और कोई मंत्रालय हो। इस बात को बढ़ाने के पहले मैं कुछ छोटी छोटी तफसीलों की बात बता देता हूं। हो सके तो मंत्री महोदय को एक आकाशवाणी का विश्वविद्यालय खोलना चाहिये। आकाशवाणी के जरिये घंटे, दो घंटे, तीन घंटे रोज का कार्यक्रम चले जिस से सुनने वालों को करीब करीब वही शिक्षा मिल जाये, बल्कि कुछ अच्छी हो, जैसेकि किसी को बी० ए० और एम० ए० में मिला करती है और यह सम्भव हो सकता है। लेकिन मैं एक चेतावनी दे देना चाहता हूं कि अगर यह अंग्रेजी में किया गया तो कूड़ा और ज्यादा इकट्ठा हो जायेगा। इसलिये मेहरबानी कर के मेरी बात को तुम बिल्कुल भुला देना अगर इस को अंग्रेजी में करना चाहो। यह काम तो केवल देशी भाषाओं में ो सकता है। आकाशवाणी का एक विश्व-विद्यालय।

इसी के साथ साथ मैं एक और भी सलाह देना चाहूंगा आकाशवाणी के या दूसरे मंत्रालयों के अन्दर काम करने वाले नौकरों के बारे में। जो मातृ भाषा के माध्यमों से काम करते हैं उन की तन्ख्वाहें करीब करीब आधी हैं, बल्कि और भी कम पड़ जाती हैं अंग्रेजी के माध्यम से काम करने वालों की अपेक्षा। यह कोई तरीका नहीं है हिन्दुस्तान में अच्छी भाषा नीति चलने का और जब मैं नौकरों की बात करता हूं तो जो अस्थायी नौकर हैं, जिन को यह लोग स्टाफ आर्टिस्ट्स कहते हैं, उन की बड़ी बेबसी की हालत है। अगर आप उस पर ध्यान दें तो जरूर कुछ न कुछ तब्दीली आ सकती है। यह बात होनी चाहिये क्योंकि जो लोग स्थायी नौकर हैं उन की तुलना में उन की हालत बड़ी खराब है।

मातृ भाषा के जो अखबार हैं, इसी रपट से पता चलेगा कि पूरे हिन्दुस्तान भर के सभी अखबार जो हैं उन को २१ लाख रुपये के विज्ञापन मिले हैं, सब अखबारों को मातृ-भाषाओं के, और केवल अंग्रेजी के अखबारों को ३० लाख रु० के विज्ञापन मिले हैं। इस पर मैं क्या कहूं। अगर इस पर मैं कोई कड़े शब्द बोलता हूं तो लोग मुझ पर नाराज होते हैं, हालांकि इस मौके पर तबिअत होती है कि सचमुच कुछ कड़े शब्द बोले जायें। इसी तरह से अगर मैं एक बात मंत्री महोदय को बतलाऊं तो उन के प्रदेश से मेरे पास एक खत आया। बड़ा भावपूर्ण खत था। उस खत के लिखने वाले ने मुझ से कहा कि "माननीय सत्य नारायण सिंह को बतला देना कि बिहार में और मैं समझता हूं कि पूरे हिन्दुस्तान के बहुत से सूबों में अभी भी कन्याओं की हत्यायें हुआ करती हैं। कन्या हत्या। बहुत से ऐसे कुटुम्ब हैं, बहुत सी ऐसी जातियां हैं जो कि कन्यायें पैदा हो जाने पर इतने दुखी होते हैं कि कन्याओं की हत्या कर देना ही बेहतर समझते हैं।" अगर कन्याओं की हत्यायें होती रहती हैं तो मैं नहीं समझता कि इस देश में कहां से न्याय और

कहां से इन्साफ पनप सकता है । यह मैं इसलिये कह रहा हूं कि आकाशवाणी और सूचना मंत्रालय के अखबार केवल बिहार में नहीं बल्कि दूसरे सूबों में भी चलते हैं । यह तो खत लिखने वाले ने मुझ से कहा था कि माननीय सत्य नारायण जी को सुना देना । इस आकाशवाणी के जरिये और जहां तक मैं जानता हूं सूचना मंत्रालय की तरफ से ऐसा कोई रोचक और रसिक प्रोग्राम प्रसारित नहीं किया जाता जिस से यह दुर्गुण और बुरी आदतें दूर हों । खाली यह कहो कि सत्य बोलो, तो कोई नहीं सुनेगा, खाली कहो कि मिलावट मत करो, कोई नहीं सुनेगा, खाली कहो कि दबा दबा कर, चबा चबा कर खाओ, कोई नहीं सुनेगा, खाली यह कहो कि खाते वक्त मुंह मत खोलो, कोई नहीं सुनेगा । लेकिन अगर यह सब चीजें आप रोचक बना दें और हिन्दुस्तान की जनता की आदतों को बदलने की कोशिश करें तो सम्भव है कि अपना देश भी कुछ सभ्य बने ।

सभ्य बनने की बात जब की जाती है तो कुछ थोड़ा सा सभ्यता के बारे में भी मुझे जरूर कहना है क्योंकि सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय का तो इस से बहुत ज्यादा सम्बन्ध होना चाहिये । सभ्यता क्या है । क्या सभ्यता यह है कि शांति रखते हुए लोग अपनी बातों को कहने आयें, जुलूस बनायें और पचास घंटे बाद आप उन को गिरफ्तार करें, और ऐसे गिरफ्तार करें कि जिस में जमानत भी उन को न मिले । क्या सभ्यता इस बात में है कि कोई सदस्य संसद् का, जैसे कि बागड़ी जी, आ कर यहां पनाह लें । आखिर इस दिल्ली में एक जहांपनाह हुआ करता था । यह पनाह की जगह है, लेकिन बजाय इस के कि माननीय मंत्री उन को इस सदन में जो पचासों कमरे हैं उन में कहीं पड़े रहने दें, उन को एक पेड़ के नीचे रखें । क्या यह सभ्यता है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह आप मुझ से कह रहे हैं क्योंकि यह उन का काम नहीं है ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : यह सही है, लेकिन आप जानते हैं, अध्यक्ष महोदय . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं पार्लियामेंट हाउस को रेजिडेंशल क्वार्टर नहीं बना सकता ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : आखिर आप ने उन्हें बाहर रखने के लिये तो नहीं कहा होगा । यह बातें तो मेरी समझ में नहीं आतीं कि

अध्यक्ष महोदय : इस में अगर सभ्यता नहीं है तो मेरा कुसूर है, और मैं इस पार्लियामेंट हाउस को रेजिडेंशल हाउस तो नहीं बना सकता । इस से इस मंत्रालय का कोई मतलब नहीं है । अगर आप इन्फार्मेशन ऐंड ब्राडकास्टिंग मिनिस्ट्री को मेरे हक देना चाहते हैं तो आप मुझ को मेरे हकों से महरूम करते हैं ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मुझे आप कहने की इजाजत दें । आखिर आप इन सब चीजों को सलाह ले कर किया करते हैं । आप एक जनतन्त्र के अध्यक्ष हैं । मैं आप को एक उदाहरण देता हूं । ठीक ऐसा ही मामला था

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर आप देना चाहेंगे तो भी मैं नहीं देने दूंगा ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : सलाह तो दी थी उन्होंने । अगर सभ्य सलाह दी होती तो मामला अच्छा होता । एक सभ्य मंत्री से हम उम्मीद कर सकते हैं कि वह सभ्य सलाह दें । खैर इस मिसाल को आप छोड़ दीजिये । मुसद्दिक का मामला मैं आप को बतला देता हूं । मुसद्दिक ईरान के प्रधान मंत्री थे । उन्होंने ईरान की संसद् में पनाह ली थी तब तो किसी ने यह सवाल नहीं उठाया कि क्या उसे घर बना दिया जाये ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर माननीय सदस्य मेरे साथ बहस करना चाहते हैं तो मेरे पास आ कर कर सकते हैं । इस के साथ मिनिस्टर साहब का कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मैं क्या करूं, अध्यक्ष महोदय । खैर, मैं इस बात को छोड़ता हूं, लेकिन आप अच्छी तरह से जानते हैं कि हम लोगों का भी इस से सम्बन्ध रहता है । खैर, मैं इस बात को छोड़ देता हूं ।

सभ्यता की यहां बड़ी चर्चा हुआ करती है । क्या सभ्यता सिर्फ इसी बात में है कि कोई परदेशी कौम हमारे ऊपर हमला करे, हमारी जमीन को हड़प ले और उस कौम का मंत्री अगर हमारी हवा का इस्तेमाल करे तो चुपचाप उस को इस बात की इजाजत दे दी जाये । क्या इसी को सभ्यता कहते हैं । तब तो इस के यह मतलब होंगे कि सभ्यता का मतलब है कि जो अपने से दुर्बल हो उस के ऊपर तो झपेटा मारो, और जो अपने से सबल हो उस के सामने झुक जाओ । आकाशवाणी और समाचार वगैरह का या सूचना का जितना भी मंत्रालय है वह अगर इसी सभ्यता को फैलाता रह गया तो हिन्दुस्तान में अब तक जो रोग रहा है वह सदा सर्वदा के लिये जारी रहेगा । सभ्यता का मतलब है कि अपने से सबल के सामने अड़ जाओ, डट जाओ, उस का मुकाबला करो, चाहे कुछ देर के लिये हार जाना पड़े, मार खाना पड़े, और जो अपने से दुर्बल हो उस के सामने झुक जाओ । यह सभ्यता अगर हिन्दुस्तान का सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय आगे के लिये सिखाये तो ज्यादा अच्छा होगा ।

मैं ने यहां एक बार जिक्र किया था औरतों, मर्दों और बच्चों की बात का जिस को मैं पूरी नहीं कर पाया था । एक ऐसे दायरे में चला गया था जिस का वर्तमान राजनीति से कोई सम्बन्ध नहीं है, इस स्थायी पन्द्रह सौ वर्ष वाली राजनीति का । हमारे देश में औरतें जितना मार खाती हैं, अध्यक्ष महोदय, वह आप जानते हैं । ऐसा क्यों होता है ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप कैसे जानते हैं ?

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मैं कैसे जानता हूं । क्योंकि आप की बीवियों को मैं देख चुका हूं ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप का क्या अपना अनुभव है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : माननीय सदस्य का वक्त जा रहा है ?

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : मैं क्या करूं, अध्यक्ष महोदय, उन लोगों को यह पता चल गया है कि अगर वे सब के सब रोक टोक करें तो उनका वक्त भी आप मेरे वक्त के साथ गिन लिया करते हैं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो उन को ठीक पता चल गया, लेकिन आप को भी यह पता होना चाहिये ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : असल में पहले तो मुझे बहुत गुस्सा आता था इस बात पर । आठ, दस वर्ष तक गुस्सा आता रहा । मैं इस मसले को समझ नहीं पाया था । लेकिन जब मैं ने इस मसले पर बहुत सोचा तो पता चला कि हिन्दुस्तान का मर्द बेबसी की हालत में अपने मालिक और अफसर की तू तड़ाक और टोकरों का मुकाबला नहीं कर पाता, पलटाकर जवाब नहीं दे पाता, अन्दर अन्दर उस के दिल में बात पकती रहती है और जब शाम को घर लौटता है तो दिन भर की खीझ और गुस्से की जलन अपने घर की औरतों के ऊपर निकाला करता है । इसी तरह से औरतों को भी गुस्सा आता है तब वह कहां पर अपने गुस्से को निकालती हैं । बच्चों पर ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : लेकिन अब औरत दबती नहीं है ।

दूसरे माननीय सदस्य : इस का सूचना प्रसारण मंत्रालय से क्या सम्बन्ध है ।

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : बच्चों पर । कई बार तो मेरे मन में आता है कि सब राजनीति को छोड़ कर मैं हिन्दुस्तान में केवल बच्चों की एक पार्टी बनाऊं ताकि वे विद्रोह करें, और विद्रोह करें अपने मां बाप के सामने कि अकारण उन के ऊपर थप्पड़ क्यों लग जाया करते हैं । जब तक अकारण थप्पड़ लगते रहेंगे और यह सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय उसके सम्बन्ध में कुछ नहीं करेगा, जब देश के मर्द अपना गुस्सा अपने सामने वाले बड़े के खिलाफ नहीं निकाल पाते और औरतों पर निकालते हैं और जब देश की दुर्बल औरतें अपने बच्चों पर गुस्सा निकालती हैं, तो ऐसे देश पर चीन जैसा कोई भी बलवान देश अपना गुस्सा निकालेगा, क्योंकि अत्याचार और जुल्म का एक चक्कर है और इस चक्कर को तोड़ना है । इस चक्कर को तोड़ने के लिये माननीय सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री कोई लम्बी योजना बनायें ताकि ये अत्याचार के कीड़े जो हमारे दिमागों में घुस गए हैं, निकल सकें । लेकिन ऐसा करने के लिये उनको पहले अपने दिमाग से और अपने मंत्रालय के दिमाग से भी कीड़ों को निकालना होगा ताकि वह सभ्य बन सकें । जब वह खुद सभ्य बनेंगे तो हिन्दुस्तान को सभ्यता सिखा सकेंगे । जो खुद असभ्य है वह दूसरों को क्या सभ्यता सिखाएगा ।

श्री अ० ति० सहगल (जंजगीर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय ने जो अपनी डिमांड्स पेश की हैं उन पर मैं अपने विचार रखना चाहता हूं ।

यह बड़े दुख की बात है कि हम अभी तक अपने आल इंडिया रेडियो के राष्ट्रीय महत्व को पूरी तरह समझ नहीं पाए हैं । रेडियो किस प्रकार देश के लिये उपयोगी हो रहा है और इस के कर्मचारी किस प्रकार की सेवा कर रहे हैं, इस ओर हमें ध्यान देना चाहिये । देश की अधिकांश जनता देहात में रहती है । इस विशाल आबादी तक हम पुस्तकों, अखबारों आदि के द्वारा नहीं पहुंच सकते । लेकिन रेडियो द्वारा हम इस जनता को अपने विचार पहुंचा सकते हैं । इसी से आप रेडियो की राष्ट्रीय उपयोगिता का अन्दाजा लगा सकते हैं । इसका देहाती कार्यक्रम अत्यन्त लोक प्रिय हो रहा है ।

आज आल इंडिया रेडियो ३३ मुख्य स्टेशनों से ११ प्रादेशिक भाषाओं और ४८ डाइलेक्ट्स में प्रसारण करता है जिसमें कुल मिला कर प्रति दिन ३८ घंटा समय दिया जाता है । रेडियो के देहाती कार्यक्रमों की रोशनी की मशाल जला कर हम आज उन लोगों तक ज्ञान पहुंचा सकते हैं जो सदियों से अज्ञान में पड़े हुए हैं । रेडियो द्वारा देहात के लोगों को खेती बाड़ी की जानकारी दी जाती है, और संसार की अन्य खबरों से उनको परिचित कराया जाता है, और उनको आवश्यक ज्ञान और सूचना इस माध्यम द्वारा पहुंचायी जाती है । इन चीजों के अलावा हमारा रेडियो देहात के लोगों के लिये मनोरंजन प्रदान करता है । आज जो गांवों में राष्ट्रीय चेतना और जागृति हो रही है, उसका अधिकांश श्रेय आल इंडिया रेडियो को ही है । यह कहना गलत न होगा कि आज रेडियो देहात की कोटि कोटि जनता के लिये एक सांस्कृतिक और सामाजिक चीज बन गया है । रेडियो आप पुनर्निर्माण का एक मात्र विधायक है । मैं अब आप का ध्यान रिपोर्ट के सफा २० की ओर ले जाना चाहता हूं जिसमें रूरल फोरम के बारे में यह कहा गया है :

> "This experiment in husbanding the material and moral resources of the countryside is being watched with interest by other broadcasting organisations of the world."

इससे पता लगता है कि यह विभाग इस दिशा में कितना उपयोगी काम कर रहा है । आज

[श्री अ० सिं० सहगल]

इस विभाग के कर्ता धर्ता माननीय श्री सत्य नारायणजी हैं और इस सफलता का सेहरा अगर इनके माथे और आल इंडिया रेडियो के डाइरेक्टर श्री बी०पी० भट्ट के माथे बांधा जाय तो उचित ही होगा ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आर्डर, आर्डर । किसी आफिशियल का नाम नहीं लिया जा सकता ।

श्री अ० सिं० सहगल : मैं वापस लेता हूं ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : जो नुक्ताचीनी करनी हो वह भी मिनिस्टर के बखिलाफ कीजिए और अगर कुछ हक में कहना हो तो भी मिनिस्टर के ही हक में कहिए ।

श्री अ० सिं० सहगल : इधर कुछ वर्षों से रेडियो के देहाती प्रोग्राम के साथ साथ रूरल फोरम ने जो सफलता प्राप्त की है, उसकी मिसाल संसार के दूसरे देशों में नहीं मिलती है । इन रूरल फोरमों की संख्या देश भर में आठ हजार तक पहुंच चुकी है । यह किसानों का अपना प्रोग्राम है जिसमें खेती बाड़ी की और दूसरी हर तरह की जानकारी दी जाती है । साथ ही साथ इसमें बैठ कर किसान अपनी खेती बाड़ी की समस्याओं को हल करते हैं । यह कार्यक्रम गांवों का एक अंग हो गया है और इससे किसानों को खेती बाड़ी के मामले में बड़ी सहायता मिलती है । इस तरह रेडियो द्वारा इन रूरल फोरमों से देश में सच्चे लोकतन्त्र की स्थापना होती है । नौजवान किसान इसमें बैठते हैं और शामिल होते हैं । भारत के अलावा कनाडा, दक्षिणी कोरिया आदि देशों के अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलनों में इसकी बड़ी सराहना हुई है ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : कोरम नहीं है ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : एक आवाज आयी कि कोरम नहीं है । अब आप अपना भाषण कल जारी रखें ।

17.28 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, March 18, 1964/Phalguna 28, 1885 (Saka).

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